December 1984

An independent magazine published by EMAP Publications

sinclair user

Issue No 33

Only 85p

BRITAIN'S BEST SELLING SINCLAIR MAGAZINE

GHOSTBUSTERS
100 games to be won

NEW SPECTRUM
All dressed up and nowhere to go?

Buyer's guide to mass storage

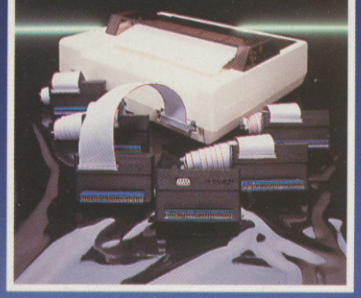
JET SET SMITH
A rare interview with the merchant of mayhem

FREE INSIDE.. FREE INSIDE..

Fantastic science fiction mega-poster

KEMPSTON
MICRO ELECTRONICS LTD

CENTRONICS, RS232 INTERFACES



Printer interfaces for the ZX Spectrum allowing you to use a wide range of printers.

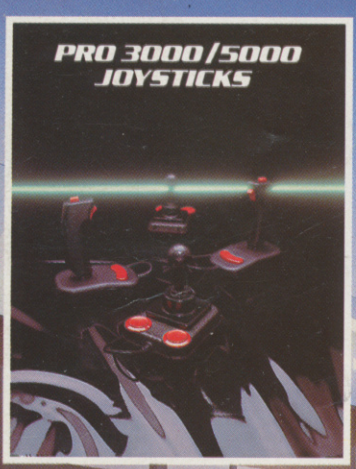
BBC PRO JOYSTICK

Complements the BBC computer in both design and performance. 8-way micro switches for precision control.

KEMPSTON JOYSTICK INTERFACE

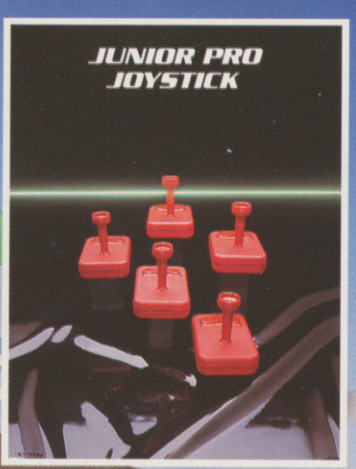
Allows all joysticks in the Kempston range and others that are Atari compatible to be used with the Spectrum.

PRO 3000/5000 JOYSTICKS



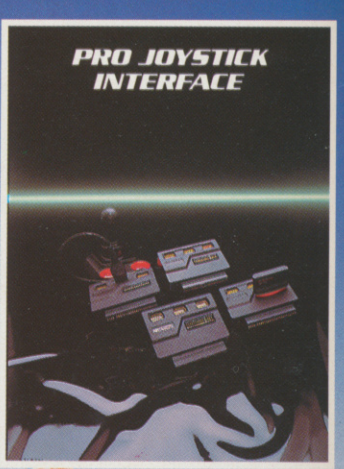
Kempston's proven winners with excellent arcade quality action. Suitable for Atari, Commodore 64 & Sinclair ZX Spectrum (when used in conjunction with a Kempston Joystick Interface).

JUNIOR PRO JOYSTICK



Offering maximum arcade quality features at an unbeatable price! Available in a special Combination pack with the Kempston Joystick Interface.

PRO JOYSTICK INTERFACE



The ultimate interface for the ZX Spectrum. Compatible with the Sinclair/Psion software, Kempston Joystick software and cursor key software, together with cartridge slot for ROM based software.

The Circuit Pro-fessionals

Most items available from
Littlewoods WHSMITH
Selfridges Boots John Menzies
spectrum Currys Hamleys

Available directly from
Kempston Micro Electronics Ltd
Fast mail order service
Please send me the following

☐	Centronics "E" Interface	£49.00	☐	RS232 Interface	£45.00
☐	Centronics "S" Interface	£35.00	☐	BBC Pro Joystick	£16.95
☐	Kempston Joystick Interface	£11.50	☐	Pro 3000 Joystick	£12.75
☐	Pro Joystick Interface	£19.95	☐	Pro 5000 Joystick	£13.50
☐	Junior Pro Special Combination	£14.99	☐	Junior Pro Joystick	£5.99

I enclose a cheque/P.O. for £ .....
Access/B'card ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
Name _____
Address _____
_____ P/code _____
Signature _____

All prices include VAT P&P Overseas add £4 P&P

Kempston Micro Electronics Ltd Singer Way Woburn Road Industrial Estate Kempston Bedford MK42 7AF **Tel (0234) 856633** **Telex 826078 KEMPM**

Contents

sinclair user

Editor
Bill Scolding

Deputy editor
John Gilbert

Consultant editor
Mike Johnston

Staff writer
Chris Bourne

Illustrator/designer
Craig Kennedy

Advertisement manager
Rob Cameron

Deputy advertisement manager
Louise Fanthorpe

Production assistant
James McClure

Advertisement secretary
Claudia Viertel

Editorial assistant
Colette McDermott

Subscriptions manager
Carl Dunne

Assistant publisher
Neil Wood

Publisher
Gerry Murray

***Sinclair User* is published monthly by EMAP Business & Computer Publications**

ABC 96,271 Jan-June 1984

Telephone
Editorial and advertising departments
01-430 1200

If you would like to contribute to *Sinclair User* please send programs or articles to:
Sinclair User,
EMAP Business & Computer Publications,
67 Clerkenwell Road,
London EC1R 5BH

Original programs should be on cassette and articles should be typed. We cannot undertake to return them unless a stamped-addressed envelope is included.
We pay £10 for the copyright of each program printed and £50 per 1,000 words for each article used.

All subscription enquiries to
Magazine Services,
EMAP Business & Computer Publications,
Priory Court,
30-32 Farringdon Lane,
London EC1R 3AU
Telephone 01-251 6222

© Copyright 1984
Sinclair User

ISSN No 0262-5458

Printed and typeset by
Cradley Print PLC,
Warley,
West Midlands

Distributed by EMAP Publications Ltd.

FEATURES

65 **CROSSWORD** A puzzle with a silicon flavour for Xmas.

81 **X-CERTIFICATE** Advice on program presentation.

97 **MASS STORAGE** We assess three devices for efficiency.

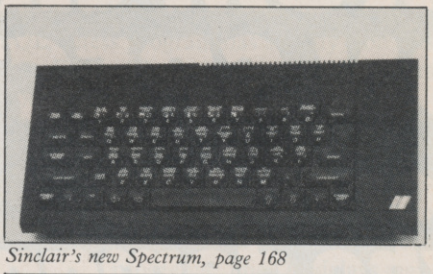
138 **C LANGUAGE** Adam Denning expands his vocabulary.

144 **MICRO MAGIC** Party time with conjurer David Hambly.

154 **COMPETITION** A spooky quiz to bust the brains of any ghost.

168 **SPECTRUM +** A full review of the new-look Spectrum.

190 **MULTI-PITCH** Expanding the size of the Spectrum screen.



Sinclair's new Spectrum, page 168

Now you see it, now you don't, page 144

REGULARS

29 **ZX-81 SOFTWARE SCENE** Three adventures in one.

33 **SPECTRUM SOFTWARE SCENE** Nine pages of hard-hitting software reviews.

51 **SINCLAIR SURGERY** Your problems solved by our experts.

57 **HARDWARE WORLD** All the latest peripherals reviewed.

76 **SINCLAIR SIMON** Epic full-colour Christmas cartoon.

88 **HIT SQUAD** Chris Bourne meets the man behind the Manic Miner myth.

109 **BOOKS** QL guides and the secrets of the computer wimp.

160 **ADVENTURE** Richard Price examines adventure aids. Plus—drop in at the Dancing Ogre.

181 **SINCLAIR BUSINESS USER** Cardfiles and cashflow.

209 **MIND GAMES** Dare you take the Mind Games test?

213 **HELPLINE** Andrew Hewson investigates ROM routines.

Manic Matthew, page 88

Things that go bump in the night, page 154

PLUS

5 **SINCLAIRVOYANCE** Once upon a time in Cambridge . . .

11 **NEWS** Spectrum+ in the shops, Imagine comes in from the cold.

23 **LETTERS** More musings from the Sinclair User postbag.

70 **TOP 30** The independent guide to the software hits.

104 **SUBSCRIPTIONS** Make sure you get your copy.

115 **PROGRAM PRINTOUT** Our first game for the mighty QL.

178 **BACK ISSUES** Where to get those issues you missed.

201 **STARTERPACK** Simple tips to help you get started.

221 **SOFTWARE DIRECTORY** Our unique guide to software.

233 **HARDWARE DIRECTORY** A new guide to peripherals.

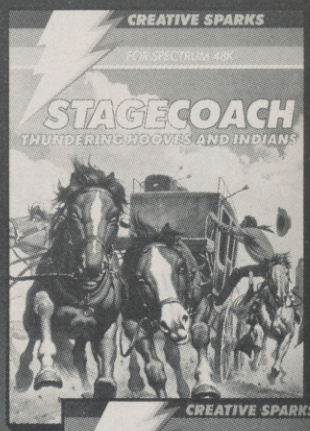
237 **CLUB CORNER** Where to find a club near you.

242 **NEXT MONTH** How does Sinclair choose its software?

QUALITY CONTROL FROM CREATIVE SPARKS ON SPECTRUM 48K

For those who demand excellence

Creative Sparks, 296 Farnborough Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7NF.

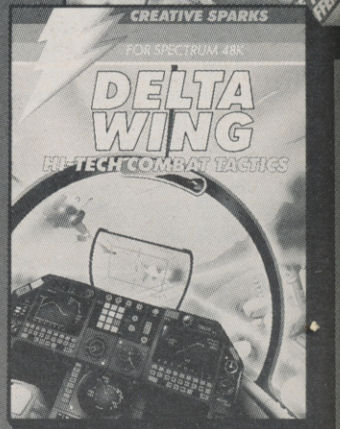


STAGECOACH

A western action game for your Spectrum which really does provide something quite different and exciting. You are Kidd Rivers, the hero of the game and you must leap aboard the runaway stage and guide it safely over the plains and through the treacherous mountains. Then just as you thought you were safe, fight off the attacking Indians.

BLACK HAWK

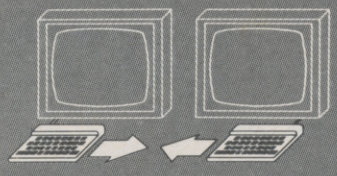
You're flying the world's deadliest aircraft, however it would appear that your Command Centre has just sent you on the world's deadliest mission. The ultimate in strategic action. This 100% machine code game offers the player two full graphic scrolling screens with over 30 levels of play.



DELTA WING

Delta Wing is an advanced flight combat simulator. It has been designed to give an excellent 'feel' for the tumble and roll of high speed flight. With 15 separate controls to monitor and incoming enemy planes to be dealt with, this program takes you and your Spectrum to the limits. Delta Wing also allows TWO Spectrum computers to play against each other through the use of two Interface 1's.

MACHINE AGAINST MACHINE



CREATIVE SPARKS

Available from
All good computer software stockists.

Send me (tick as required)

☐	**DELTA WING**	TNCC191	**£6.95**
☐	**BLACK HAWK**	TNCC11	**£6.95**
☐	**STAGECOACH**	TNCC181	**£6.95**

☐ My local stockist's address
☐ Your full list of games

Game/s at **£6.95** each £ : p
+ single P&P sum : 30p
Total to send £ : p

Method of payment
By cheque or PO (no cash) made payable to **TECS**

Access VISA ☐ By Access ☐ Barclaycard

Enter card no.

Sign below:

Credit card sales: UK buyers only.
Response within 21 days.

Creative Sparks,
Department MO,
296 Farnborough Road,
Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7NF.
Telephone: (0252) 518364.

Name

Address

SU1284

THE QL FAIRY TALE

CHRISTMAS is fast approaching and we will soon be in the pantomime season once again. No-one who saw it will easily forget last year's hit production of 'QLinderella'.

It was a wonderful show, combining as it did elements of drama, suspense, humour and excitement. It was not without its sad moments too and provided a mixture of hope and disappointment for quite a few people. In the Sinclair version there was a reverse of the usual order of the plot. In the first scene QLinderella appeared at the Ball and made a stunning entrance. She was greeted by cries of admiration from the whole assembly. Prince Consumer thought her utterly charming.

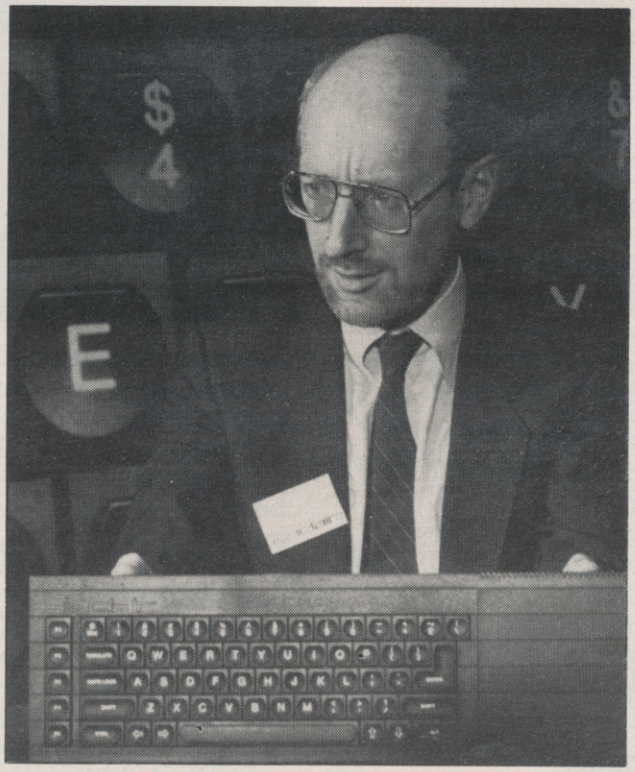
Sadly, after only 28 days her finery turned to rags and she disappeared leaving only a silicon slipper behind. Nothing daunted, Prince Consumer pursued her eagerly but had some difficulty in finding her. And when he did get the occasional glimpse he could have been forgiven for wondering if this was the same ravishing creature he first saw at the Ball. Some of the town criers now began to pour scorn on her and hinted that perhaps she was not a real princess after all but a mere kitchen maid. . .

The tale is not yet ended and the curtain is just going up for the next Act. Will the story have a happy ending? Will Prince Consumer find and marry QLinderella? Or will he perhaps settle for one of her ugly sisters?

Oh yes he will!

Oh no he won't!

It is almost a year since the QL was launched and the machine is only now in the shops. We have seen a saga of slipped delivery dates, misleading information, poor support, poorly finished hardware, bugged software, flawed or missing documentation and to add insult to injury the company has already announced that supplies are likely to be limited for the immediate future.



For many computers, that would almost certainly have spelled total disaster.

However, few other machines have the advantage of having a Fairy Godfather like Sir Clive Sinclair. Whatever the difficulties may have been it is impossible to ignore the magic of a company with such a brilliant track record of low priced technical innovation and the proven ability to produce and sell computers by the million. For that reason alone, the QL remains a potential winner.

It is to be hoped that the production problems are now a thing of the past. There are QLs available over the counter and the company has said it plans to increase production to 50,000 units a month with further manufacturers shortly to join the existing source. With more than 20,000 QL owners already there is the beginning of a healthy user base.

Software is still limited in variety but the building blocks for the chart toppers of the future are already appearing—assemblers, disassemblers, editors and alternative operating systems. The Psion QL Chess program has already won this year's Microcomputer Chess Championship which augurs well for the quality of QL software.

Sinclair is keen to establish the credibility of the machine for serious use and has approached a number of leading business software producers—Digital Research, Quest, Sagesoft, MicroApl, Scicon and others—who are expected to produce new languages, accounting and communications programs. The QL delays may, however, have discouraged some of the smaller produers who have been engaged in a slow bicycle race waiting to see if the computer really will take off. There are books by the bushel. Upwards of fifty QL titles have been published or are due to appear shortly.

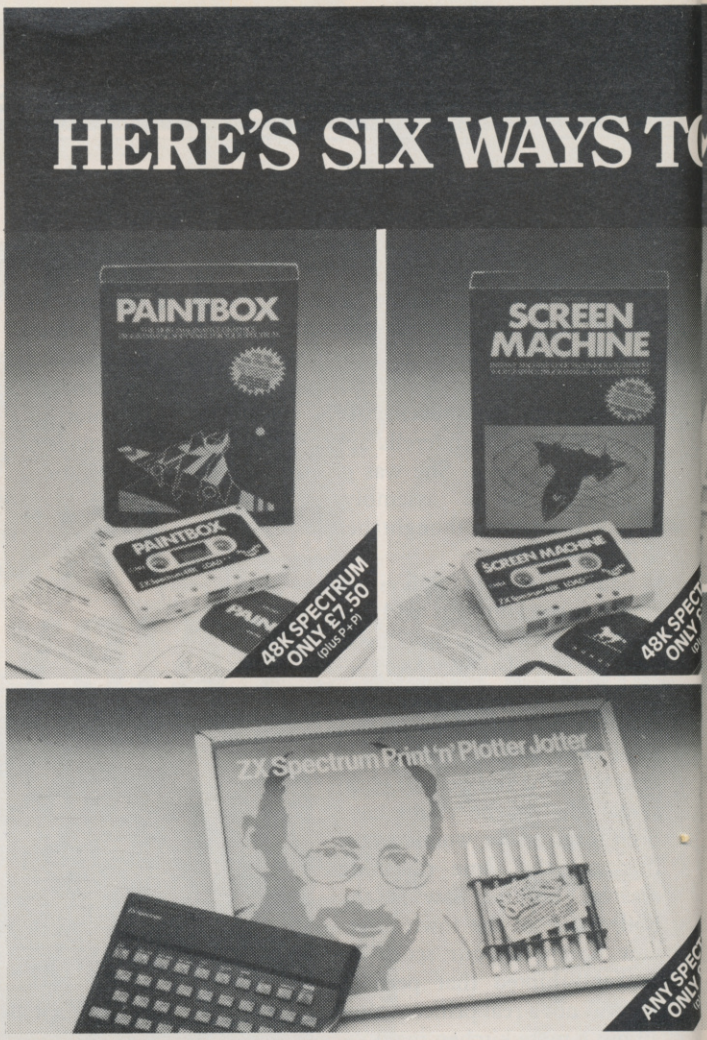
From that point of view the prospects look good, but there are still a number of doubts. Eventual success will depend on the ability of the QL to find the correct niche in the market. Some people feel it falls uneasily between two stools. Enthusiasts might buy it as a cheap 68000 development system and for languages like BCPL and Unix which may soon be available. In general, though, it is probably a little expensive as a home/games machine.

Then there are the small business users. The QL may offer features only available elsewhere at several times the price, but then business users are less impressed by the bells and whistles of advanced technology and more interested in boring old things like ruggedness of design, proven reliability of hardware, manufacturers back-up, widely available standard software and other similar unexciting considerations. Unlike hobbyists or home users they are not very tolerant of shortcomings.

That leaves the elusive professional user, the person who wants to use a computer for 'real work' as a professional tool. It may well be that, as with his earlier machines, Sinclair will create a new market. New users will not be prejudiced by the supposed shortcomings of the keyboard and the microdrives, or unduly worried by some of the odd omissions in the software, provided the machine is reliable and does the job.

The keys to success are good software—likely to be forthcoming—and a commitment by the company to the highest standards of quality control and customer service. Sinclair Research must be only too painfully aware of that after last year's little drama. The micro market is no longer the wide open field it once was and if Sinclair can not meet the challenge, there are others hot on his heels who will.

Mike Johnston



PAINTBOX

Superb Graphics — without expensive hardware!

PAINTBOX is a must for every owner of a 48K Spectrum.

It will give you the ability to produce stunning graphics on your micro — simply.

With PAINTBOX there's no need for expensive hardware — why pay up to £150 for hardware when you can produce incredible picture and graphics with one cassette-based software package?

If you haven't seen PAINTBOX demonstrated you're in for a pleasant surprise!

For instance, PAINTBOX will enable you to draw practically anything on your screen and save it either as SCREEN$ or as a machine code memory file to use in your BASIC or MC programs.

You wield enormous power over the graphics capability of your SPECTRUM — including the definition, storage and use of up to 84 UDG's — 4 times more than normal! A brief description of facilities are as follows:

UDG DRAWING BOARD for defining up to 4 Banks of UDG's including ROTATE, MIRROR, INVERSE etc.

UDG EDITOR for storing up to 84 UDG's for use in screen planning or in your other programs.

PRECISION PLOTTER. A high-resolution drawing board which allows you to draw anything on the screen. Facilities like CIRCLE, FILL, ARC, PLOT, DRAW, ERASE, OVER, DRAW RADIALLY, INK, BRIGHT etc are included and easy to use!

SCREEN PLANNER gives you the best of both worlds! The combined use of PRECISION PLOTTER and your Banks of UDG's for highly detailed and precise screen graphics.

The program is complete with DEMO on side two of the cassette and a 28 page instruction booklet.

PAINTBOX can be used with Joysticks and is Sinclair Microdrive compatible.

SCREEN MACHINE

Instant Machine Code for graphics and text

SCREEN MACHINE is a completely professional graphics utility to use with Paintbox (or any other graphics hardware or software).

It will allow you to manipulate your screen graphics and text in ways which will make your programs better and more memory efficient. For instance:

If you have produced a screen-full of superb graphics you can enlarge, reduce, recolour, flip screen, relocate your graphics to another part of the screen, superimpose one screen on another and perform all sorts of other wonders!

Then you can take your results and put them through a series of memory compression routines to allow you to save enormous amounts of memory. Such items like compressing with or without attributes, saving thirds of the screen and multiple combinations of both are possible.

Never has machine code storage of graphics been simpler because SCREEN MACHINE automatically creates re-callable multiple screen files with a location catalogue so that you can add them to your programs!

SCREEN MACHINE also allows the user to program UDG's or text directly into machine code, so if your programs use a lot of text instructions or menus SCREEN MACHINE is going to save fantastic amounts of memory!

SCREEN MACHINE is a major graphics toolkit for the 48K SPECTRUM. It is completely menu-driven, Sinclair Microdrive compatible, and comes with instruction book and an unbelievable DEMO on side 2 of the cassette.

ADVENTURE PLANNER

A must for the adventure game fan

If you're an Adventure Game nut, Print 'n' Plotter's new ADVENTURE PLANNER is exactly what you have been looking for!

It's a 50 page, BIG SIZE (16¾" x 11¾") pad with a complete 'mapping' system with over 150 locations on each sheet . . . created to help you solve Adventure Games.

It's the best way to beat the 'system' and is obviously for use with any make of computer.

ADVENTURE PLANNER will also assist you in planning Adventure Games for programming — a helpful pad to keep by your computer at all times.

TOMPROVE PROGRAMS.

ADVENTURE PLANNER is published with instructions for use, examples, hints and tips on how to play and win the game faster.

ADVENTURE PLANNER is a high quality pad, board-backed and fly-leaf cover . . . economically priced too!

ZX SPECTRUM JOTTER

Pre-planning your screen made easy . . . and precise!

Print 'n' Plotter JOTTERS have become a household word for the Sinclair enthusiast.

Despite various imitations our original ZX SPECTRUM JOTTER is still the one people prefer!

Of course it could be because it is professionally produced . . . the quality is superb.

And the fact that it is BIG SIZE A3 (16½" x 11¾") is a distinct advantage when working in high-resolution.

It's also 100 pages thick. 50 pages of PLOT grids showing each numbered pixel co-ordinate and 50 pages of PRINT grids showing every character and graphic character position and INPUT lines.

Each page also contains 24 UDG planning grids (2400 per pad).

Consider also the fact that it is printed on Artist's Detail paper . . . thick enough to take any writing, drawing or colouring, yet thin enough to overlay onto a drawing and trace-off.

For pre-planning graphics, text, tabulation or anything to produce 'on screen', a Print 'n' Plotter JOTTER won't be beaten.

The complete package comes with a set of coloured pens, a Pixel ruler and a handy corrugated storage tray.

If you use PAINTBOX, SCREEN MACHINE or any other graphics utility . . . you'll do things better with the ORIGINAL Print 'n' Plotter JOTTER!

KEYBOARD OVERLAYS

The simple answer to "Which key?"

Print 'n' Plotter KEYBOARD OVERLAYS for the standard ZX Spectrum keyboard are the economic answer to "Which key does what?"

If you program, or buy commercially-produced software, sooner or later you'll be faced with a mind-boggling mass of keys that perform different functions.

Let's face it, the Spectrum keyboard is complicated enough so why not take the easy way to remember . . .

. . . lay over the keyboard a Print 'n' Plotter OVERLAY and write the function underneath . . . it's child's play!

Print 'n' Plotter KEYBOARD OVERLAYS come in packs of ten. Punched to fit your Spectrum. Priced to suit your pocket!

ZX PRINTER PAPER

High quality. Cheaper Price!

Print 'n' Plotter have gained a good reputation for the most reliable and high quality PRINTER PAPER for your ZX PRINTER.

Now it's even better because we've reduced the price!

So if you want ZX PRINTER PAPER that gives good, clear print . . . and you want it a little cheaper . . . send today for quick delivery!

ORDER NOW OR ASK YOUR LOCAL COMPUTER SHOP!
CREDIT CARD
24hr ANSAPHONE ORDERS
01-660 7231

(Phone 01-403 6644 for Dealer and other enquiries)

Post to: Dept S10 Print 'n' Plotter Products Ltd 19 Borough High Street, London SE1 9SE Please send me the following:

..... PAINTBOX SOFTWARE	@ £ 8.25
..... SCREEN MACHINE	@ £ 8.25
..... ADVENTURE PLANNER	@ £ 4.50
..... SPECTRUM JOTTER PADS	@ £ 9.00
..... KEYBOARD OVERLAYS	@ £ 2.95
..... 5 ROLLS ZX PRINTER PAPER	@ £12.00
..... 10 ROLLS ZX PRINTER PAPER	@ £23.00

☐ Please tick this box for Paintbox Microdrive instructions

All prices include VAT and U.K. postage

Overseas orders add 25% on quoted prices for additional handling

☐ I enclose remittance in full

☐ Please bill my ACCESS/BARCLAYCARD/VISA/ MASTERCARD No:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

_____

Print 'n' plotter Products

S11

Travel with...

Now Trashman is a great British success he's ready for international stardom – and you can help him on his way around the world. Our hero has the tall order task of cleaning up every major litter spot around the globe. Scooping up flowers thrown into the bull ring by matador fans in Spain, collecting the tissues of the faithful as they sob by Jerusalem's Wailing Wall, picking up coconuts from a palm beach in Samoa and collecting the empties at the German beer festival (Trashman still likes his tipple!) are just some of the challenges that make up Trashman's task.

Of course, your skill can help our hilarious hero to complete the necessary litter collection at every location, so he can earn the money to fly on to the next country in his round the world quest. And as he visits every continent on Earth in search of rubbish you can share every fun filled, thrill packed second with him.

Travel with Trashman has one or two player scoring, Hall of Fame and is compatible with Kempston, Sinclair Interface 2, Protek or equivalent joysticks. Available for the 48K Spectrum today from most good computer stores for just **£5.95.**

TRAVEL WITH TRASHMAN. AUTHOR – MALCOLM EVANS

NOW AVAILABLE

Selected titles of New Generation Software are available from your local computer store and larger branches of:

WHSMITH John Menzies WOOLWORTH Spectrum Boots

VFG 669Y
New Generation Software
GSH
Guild of Software Houses
New Generation products are sold according to their terms of trade and conditions of sale.
FREEPOST
Bath BA2 4TD
Tel: 0225 316924

Paint pictures on your television screen

WITH THE

The RD Digital TRACER

■ CREATE UNIQUE GRAPHIC DESIGNS QUICKLY AND ACCURATELY ■ TRANSFER MAPS, NEWSPAPERS OR TEXT BOOK ILLUSTRATIONS ■ USE COMPUTER GRAPHICS IN YOUR PROJECTS REPORTS, LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

* ONLY £59.50 inc. VAT

Kane-May Limited
FREEPOST
Welwyn Garden City
Herts AL7 4BR
Telephone (07073) 31051

Convert your Sinclair into your very own digital paintbox.
Without complicated programming you can paint anything quickly onto your TV screen. You can draw lines of varying thickness, blocks of colour or shading at a stroke and print text anywhere. Then you can enlarge or reduce your picture, turn it upside down or even make a mirror image. You can print it or store it on cassette or microdrive.
The Tracer comes complete with a software cassette, tracing grid and interface compatible with ZX Spectrum (BBC-B Models are also available).

To Kane-May Limited FREEPOST, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 4BR

Please send me:

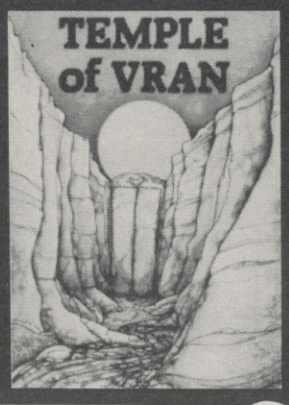
_____ RD Digital Tracer(s) RDZX/A4 at £59.50 inc VAT + £3.00 Postage & Packing
I enclose a cheque/postal order for £_____
or please debit my Access/Barclaycard.
(Delete as necessary)
Card Number_____
Signature_____
Mr/Mrs/Miss_____
(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)
Address_____
_____ Postcode_____

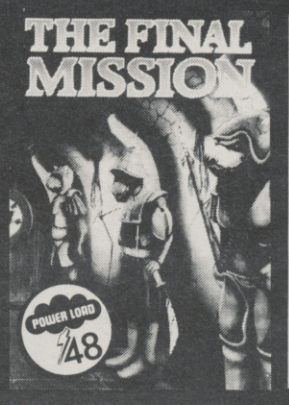
THE KET TRILOGY

'A commendably strong plot and a pot full of puzzles'
– BIG K

'Full marks'
– C&VG

'100% – the best I have ever reviewed'
– PCT





'A stimulating adventure'
– SINCLAIR USER

'Heartily recommended'
– CRASH

'Very professional ... a very polished adventure'
– PCW

A VIDEO RECORDER

WHEN YOU BECOME BRITAINS' 'BEST ADVENTURER'

KET is a strife torn land which has never known peace. Particularly vicious attacks from beyond the mountains now threaten its very existence and the Lords of Ket look upon you as their only hope ...

Each episode of the Ket Trilogy hides a short part of a sentence that is only revealed on completing the adventure. Having come to the end of this mammoth 120K challenge, the first person to discover the complete message will be awarded a video recorder of their own choice (up to value of £400) and the coveted award BRITAINS BEST ADVENTURER.

The Complete Ket Trilogy Now Available in a Presentation Box. Special Price £12.95

INCENTIVE

THE KET TRILOGY Series of adventures are available from Software Dealers nationwide. In case of difficulty, please use our fast and efficient mail order service.
PLEASE NOTE Each of the Trilogy is a *COMPLETE ADVENTURE IN ITSELF* which can be played totally independently of the other two.
REGISTERED OFFICE 54 London Street Reading RG1 4SQ.
CREDIT CARD ORDERS Telephone direct (0734) 591678.

ORDER FORM
ZX SPECTRUM 48K
£5.50 each (incl. P&P)

Mountains of Ket ☐
Temple of Vran ☐
The Final Mission ☐
THE KET TRILOGY PRESENTATION BOX £12.95 ☐

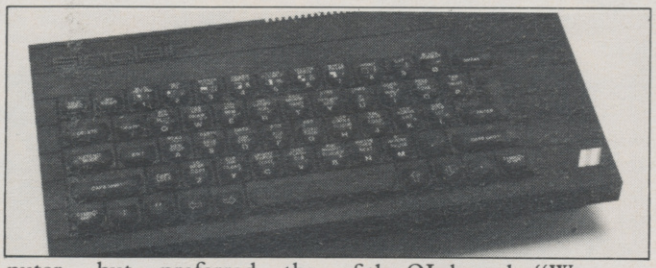
Also available:
1984 – Government Management ☐
Millionaire ☐ Splat ☐

Please send me the titles as indicated, by 1st class post.
I enclose cheque for £ ..... or debit my credit card.
Access ☐ Visa ☐ Barclaycard ☐
☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
Name/address _____

INCENTIVE SOFTWARE LTD, 54 London Street, Reading RG1 4SQ, England

New Spectrum launch

A SPECTRUM with a 'real' keyboard has been released by Sinclair Research. The new Spectrum sells for £179.95 and includes a new manual with colour diagrams and six items of software, including **Tasword 2, Scrabble, Chequered Flag** and **VU-3D.**



Sir Clive Sinclair says the product is aimed squarely at potential buyers of the Commodore 64. "Market research showed people thought the Spectrum was a better computer, but preferred the Commodore 64 because of its keyboard".

The decision to launch the package without advance publicity was taken because of criticism over the handling of the QL launch. "We wanted to make absolutely sure the Spectrum+ was in the shops when it was launched," says Sir Clive. "Otherwise nobody would have believed us".

Cashing in on Santa

SANTA CLAUS has been roped in to help Creative Sparks with its Christmas software push.

The company's new game **Special Delivery** for the 48K Spectrum turns the player into Uncle Santa who must be guided across the sky to drop presents on eager children. All the action is accompanied by what Creative Sparks calls suitable seasonal music.

Gordon Reid, product manager for Creative Sparks says: "Special Delivery makes an ideal Christmas gift, and games players will also be able to use it beyond the Christmas period, as it features four separate screens of play and fine animation graphics". If you want a dose of seasonal jollity then it costs £6.95 from high street stores. Ten out of ten for being quick on the ball but zero for lasting appeal.

DIY microdrives for the QL

ACCORDING to Sinclair Research it is theoretically possible to link Spectrum microdrives to the drive extension port at the righthand side of the QL.

The only problem is that the cartridge access slot must face backwards, which means that the insertion of cartridges is made very difficult.

The cable also has to be reversed in order that the connection can be made to the third microdrive. That still does not guarantee that the connection will be good enough for the ZX drive to work perfectly.

If you manage to get all the bits and pieces working then you can use the usual microdrive commands. The ZX microdrive will provide an inexpensive alternative to the QL microdrives which have yet to be launched.

Sabreman soldiers on

THE COMPANY which brought the world **Sabre Wulf,** Ultimate, has just released two sequels to the game.

The two new titles are **Underwurlde** and **Knight Lore.** The first is similar to Sabre Wulf as it takes place in the same Underwurlde with hundreds of monsters to fight in a wide variety of different locations.

Knight Lore, on the other hand, is what Ultimate describes as "the first step in the new generation of computer adventure simulation developments whch represents the very pinnacle of software development on the 48K Spectrum".

The scenario is portrayed in 3D representation with sprite aliens and monsters. The Sabreman character has over 200 individual frames and Ultimate claims that he is "the most animated character in computing software history to date".

Viewdata ban on Labour

NO SOONER had Neil Kinnock opened the Labour Party pages on the Micronet 800 database and telesoftware service than an order was sent through to shut them off from public view.

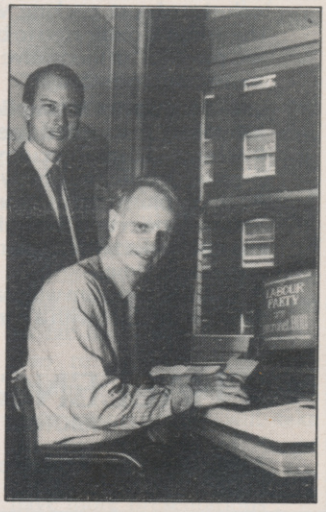
Accusations as to who gave the order have been flying from a number of sources but Dr Jeremy Bray, Labour spokesman for science and technology, puts the blame on Sir George Jefferson, chairman of British Telecom, who issued a policy directive last year that sought to make sure that videotext services did not develop a party political bias after an attempt by the SDP to advertise through Prestel during the 1983 general election.

Dr Bray put out an official statement claiming "Sir George did not check on the legality of such discrimination. To classify religion and politics with prostitution and crime while purveying share prices, exchange rates and the weather, betrays a singularly perverted view of society".

British Telecom denies that it got involved with the banning of Labour from the services public view pages. A spokesman for the company claimed that the Labour Party did not have an agreement with BT but with Telemap, an organisation which rents a large number of videotext pages from Prestel. It has to act in accordance with the Viewdata Industry Association and its practice of banning the use of pages open to the public to political parties or their viewpoints. The spokesman went on to say that it had been Telemap which had ordered the ban and that BT had brought no pressure to bear on the company.

Micronet firmly denies the claim and insists that the order came down through Prestel to Telemap. Meanwhile, Dr Bray has written to Secretary for Trade and Industry, Norman Tebbit, to ask him to intervene in the dispute with BT.

He says that the pages on Micronet are important if the Labour Party is to continue its link with members using viewdata.



more news on page 13

Introducing the Sprint

UK & World Patents Pending.

It loads Spectrums four times faster than an ordinary cassette player, uses standard cassette software, and has improved loading reliability. All for just £64.95.

The new Sprint from Challenge Research will load and save Spectrum programs at four times the speed of conventional cassette players, this even applies to standard program and games cassette software that has been pre-recorded at normal speed. All this plus improved loading reliability is available for just £64.95 inclusive of post, packing, VAT and a 12 month guarantee. The Sprint is dedicated to both the 16K and 48K Spectrum and provides an innovative but inexpensive new concept in cassette tape storage.

Use of the Sprint is simplicity itself:

- Retains the standard Spectrum commands and format.
- Advanced digital circuitry and signal processing improves loading reliability and eliminates volume setting.
- Simply plugs into the Spectrum port — no interface or external power unit is required, it even has it's own expansion slot so that you can still use other peripherals at the same time.
- A full 48K program will load or save in 75 seconds rather than five minutes with a conventional cassette recorder.

Spend less on a Sprint. Spend more time working your Spectrum and be the envy of your friends.
If you have Visa or Access cards you may phone your order to ensure faster delivery by calling Potters Bar (0707) 44063, or post the coupon below.
Please allow 28 days for delivery. If you are not delighted with your Challenge Sprint simply return it within 7 days and we will refund your money in full.

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

CHALLENGE RESEARCH
A DIVISION OF A.E. HEADEN LTD.

218 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BJ Potters Bar Tel: (0707) 44063

To: Challenge Research,
218 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BJ. Tel: Potters Bar (0707) 44063

Please supply 1 Challenge Sprint at £64.95 (inclusive of post, packing, VAT and 12 months guarantee).

Please tick box if you require a further 2 years guarantee at an additional cost of £7.50 ☐

Name (*Please print*)

Address

Signature SU/12/84

I enclose cheque/postal order made payable to Challenge Research for £

Please charge my Access/Visa No (*delete as appropriate*) the sum of £

The Cambridge Prince

A LUXURY reception at London's Ritz Hotel marked the presentation of the Cambridge Award, co-sponsored by *Sinclair User* and Cases Computer Simulations, by Nigel Searle, managing director of Sinclair Research.

The winning entry **The Prince,** for the 48K Spectrum, was written by John Sherry who received a trophy and a cheque for £2,000.

The four runners up, Thomas Frost of Angus, Nicholas Holgate of Camberley, David Bark of Stranraer and Stephen Thomas of Luton, were presented with cheques for £250. Their programs, together with The Prince, are to be published by CCS.

Nigel Searle was pleased that *Sinclair User* and CCS sponsored the award and for "encouraging intellectually stimulating and entertaining games". He reminded the audience comprising national and computer press, television and radio representatives that the United Kingdom "had the highest penetration of home computer ownership in the world" and referred to the need to develop software to match the increasing power of home computers.

David Bark, Nicholas Holgate, John Sherry, Nigel Searle, Stephen Thomas, Thomas Frost.

Cheap is not always nasty

OWNERS of ZX-81s can now buy budget software, under £2.00, for their machines.

A new company called Pooter Games has joined the ranks of the budget software suppliers which include such salubrious companies as Mastertronic, Pulsonic, Atlantis and Virgin Games. Its programs will not be sold by mail order but will shortly find their way into high street stores. The £1.85 range includes **Handles,** a game for CB radio enthusiasts and **Binary Brains,** for those who want to know more about binary numbers.

The Spectrum budget scene also has a new member in the form of a company which modestly calls itself Omega, the last word in software. It is made up of several computer companies such as Anirog, Computer Rental Limited and Silversoft. Its members want to cause a stir with a product standard so high many software houses would have released its first twelve games at a much higher price.

Its range of £1.99 games for the Spectrum include **Chambers of Horrors, Pool, Corruption** and **Handy Andy.** Could this be the end of the software market as we know it?

Dreaming in competition

A WEEKEND in Paris for two is the prize being offered by Star Dreams for the first person to complete its new adventure **The Sandman Cometh.**

It is a bizarre game featuring dream sequences, each set with its own series of logical problems. The program was devised and created by the same person who wrote **Aural Quest** for the Stranglers' last LP. It was written by a team of programmers in a one year period.

The game is packaged as a parody of a motion picture and opens with film-style credits and a loading screen which looks like the Board of Censors certificate.

Richard Hildrick, a 15-year-old from York was the lucky winner of a QL, first prize in a competition run by dk'tronics. He personally picked up the first prize at the company headquarters in Saffron Walden, Essex. The runners up were Andrew Fairholm, from Clifton, Rugby, Simon Harvey, from Kettering in Hants, and Mark Middleton of Morton in Lincolnshire.

Quiz fans raise £2100

THE CAMPAIGN to help sufferers of multiple sclerosis was further aided when the £2,100 royalties for **Stuart Henry's Pop Quiz** from Bellflower Software was handed over to the Radio Luxembourg disc jockey by Bucks Fizz stars Cheryl Baker and Mike Nolan.

The money has been raised by Bellflower and WH Smith from sales of the popular computer game for the 48K Spectrum which tests players' pop knowledge.

Stuart Henry suffers from the disease of the nervous system and the Multiple Sclerosis Society operates a research fund in his name. David Gordon, director of Bellflower, says: "Everyone who has bought the program so far has made a contribution to vital research into finding a cure for MS. We hope more people will take up the challenge of Stuart Henry's Pop Quiz so we can have more presentations'.

more news on page 15

If you're involved with education, then you're involved with hi-technology and computers.

THE HI-TECHNOLOGY AND COMPUTERS IN EDUCATION

Exhibition

23-26 January, 1985
BARBICAN CENTRE, LONDON EC2

The face of education is changing, monitors are replacing blackboards, light pens are replacing chalk.

As an educationalist take an opportunity to get right up to date with everything that's new in high technology and computers in education. The new techniques aren't only for the science labs or computer classes, they cover all aspects of the schools curriculum, from geography to physical training.

This exhibition, the first of its kind, is a definitive showcase for both manufacturers and users alike. You can see the best the world has to offer, compare specifications and collect literature away from the bustle of day to day activities.

Entrance is free to anyone working in education and over 18 years of age. Just clip the coupon below. (To be completely up-to-date, book into the series of half-day seminar/workshops organised alongside the exhibition in co-operation with the Micro-electroncs Education Programme. For details of these and a booking form, tick the box on the coupon below.)

Timothy Collins,
Computer Marketplace (Exhibitions) Ltd.,
20 Orange Street,
London WC2H 7ED

To: Timothy Collins, Computer Marketplace (Exhibitions) Ltd 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED.
Please send me details of the seminar/workshaps ☐
Please send me my free ticket(s) to the Hi-Technology and Computers In Education Exhibition,

Quantity _____ Name _____

Establishment _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone _____

SU/12/84

For details of discount rail travel: P.O. Box 1, St. Albans AL1 4ED Telephone (0727) 37799

Imagine bounces back

BANDERSNATCH, one of the Imagine mega-games, has surfaced.

Last seen heading off into the sunset with directors Ian Heatherington and David Lawson, the game has come back to life in the Sinclair Research stables. Heatherington and Lawson are doing their best to finish a QL version for Alison Maguire, the Sinclair software manager. She says, "The games have enormous technical and marketing potential. They are at once complex, challenging and very exciting and will be ideal for the type of QL user we envisage".

The programmers are working on a fee basis for Sinclair Research but all the royalties will go to Imagine creditors via the official liquidator, Christopher Chambers, who arranged the Sinclair resurrection of the product. He says that it offers "very significant potential to recover monies for Imagine's unsecured creditors".

According to Sinclair spokesman Julian Goldsmith the new mega-game is due for release in the first quarter of next year. It could be ROM based but, he says, it is more likely to be stored on microdrive as it needs a substantial amount of memory — more than 100K.

The final format of the game has yet to be decided. Goldsmith says, "We are giving ourselves as long as possible to get it right. That would mean a release in the early or middle part of 1985".

Bargain basement

BUDGET software house Mastertronic has taken over distribution of the former Imagine titles taken on by Beau-Jolly.

The deal is backed by £250,000 of TV advertising which will cover the British ITV network. Beau-Jolly is confident of reaching a target audience of more than 20 million viewers.

Distribution and advertising will focus on special Christmas packs of games. There's a six-pack for the 48K Spectrum and a four-pack for 16K Spectrum owners. Games will include established titles such as **Arcadia** and **Alchemist** but some new games, such as **Cosmic Cruiser** and **BC Bill** will also be put into the packages.

Colin Ashby, a director of Beau-Jolly, says "Mastertronic got it right from the word go, and we are very pleased to be working with them. The market for budget games is large and growing larger, and we believe that some manufacturers are still failing to reach it. The fact that Mastertronic have sold well over a half a million games in what is supposed to be the quiet season demonstrates this".

Willy misses Christmas rush

THOSE hoping that the sequel to Jet Set Willy will be released before Christmas are in for a disappointment as Software Projects does not intend to launch the game until the spring of 1985.

Matthew Smith and company director Alan Maton are still thinking about what should go into the game. Smith has some very definite ideas but only a few of them are printable. "Somewhere in the game we are going to have an Alice in Wonderland character". He says that there are some problems with that idea. "You can show a voluminous skirt in 16×16 pixels very well but you can't have any features".

The other reason for the delay is that Smith wants to include a hardware based add-on which will be of use to Spectrum owners even when not playing the game.

Meanwhile Software Projects have launched a game called **Lode Runner,** which is a levels and ladders game in which the player has to collect blocks from a screen which is re-definable.

Cottagers' viewpoint

A DRAMATIC development in graphics technique has been claimed in a recently launched game for the 48K Spectrum by new company Sterling Software.

Country Cottages, its first game for the Sinclair machine, uses landscape creation — a technique similar to that used in the Beyond **Lords of Midnight,** in which over 30,000 views of objects and places can be drawn using algorithms within the program.

Sterling, an off-shoot of reference book publisher Sterling Publications, claims that Country Cottages can draw infinite views of the surroundings with which the players are faced in this two-player strategy game.

After that the plot is much more mundane, being somewhat like *Monopoly* in which the purchase and sale of properties is important.

The package of releases for Christmas also includes the first in a series of adventure games featuring ace secret spy the Ice Man, in a plot called **Assignment East Berlin.** The next in the series is already at the planning stage and is called **Assignment Hong Kong.**

HURG record winner

TOM DAVIES, winner of the Melbourne House HURG competition for the Spectrum is presented with a cheque for £2,500 by John Gilbert, deputy editor of *Sinclair User.*

The winning entry, written using the HURG games designer, features a character called Tim Drum who has to produce a record soundtrack using notes which he has created.

The idea, created by Davies, is to be sold by Melbourne House.

more news on page 16

Telecom software

BRITISH TELECOM has launched its own software house, Firebird, and its range of products includes six budget games for the Spectrum.

The company does not employ in-house programmers but buys software on a royalty basis.

The initial titles for the Spectrum include two arcade games, an arcade adventure and a war strategy program. The difference between Firebird's products and that of rival software houses is in its packaging. Firebird puts screen shots of games on the cassette insert so that potential customers will know what they are getting. Richard Hooper, Chief Executive of BT's Value Added Systems and Services says: "You can now judge a game by its cover. In a market where quality and prices tend to be variable and complaints of misrepresentation frequent, Firebird is setting new standards."

The first titles cost £2.50 each and Firebird sees that as excellent value for money. "Despite the pocket money price Firebird games will offer the same quality as some products costing twice as much. Firebird is committed to the home computer market and will deal only through established distributors."

Sinclair profits

THE YEARLY pre-tax profits for Sinclair Research are significantly less than expected.

For 1983-84 profits were £14.28 million whereas the previous financial year they were £14.03m. Company turnover, however, rose by 42 percent from £54.53 million to £77.69 million.

Sir Clive Sinclair, writing in the annual company report says that the low profit figure was largely due to the launch of major products such as the QL and the pocket television which 'added greatly to costs in the year but little to sales'.

He did have hope for the coming year. "Our Spectrum computer continues to gain in sales. Pocket television production is increasing and we hope to expand sales abroad next calendar year.

"Export sales have increased steadily and there has been rapid growth in the home market. Export sales are expected to increase as a percentage of total sales".

Looking into the future, something that Sir Clive is always doing, he stressed the company's 'strong technical leadership which we expect to enhance now that our advanced research laboratory, MetaLab, is established'.

Sir Clive Sinclair was to be seen clutching the QL for the inevitable photographs at the launch, held at Claridges, of two new guides for QL software, QL Quill and QL Easel.

The books written by Alison and Clare Spottiswoode, and Francesca Simon, are their first venture under their new company Blueprint.

The books are aimed at the first time use who has no experience of word processing and business graphics. Both books will sell at £7.95 and are published by Century Communications.

Computers save world

A COMPUTER capable of creative thought is the incredible claim put forward in a new book from Viking Press, a division of Penguin Books.

The Creative Computer, by Donald Michie and Rory Johnston, shows how it is possible for computers to create new knowledge in order to solve the major problems facing humanity such as disease, economic stagnation and international strife.

The authors' findings are based on a major new discovery which is only now emerging from the world's most advanced computer laboratories. It is based on the new technology of expert systems, computers that contain accumulated knowledge upon which they can make judgements and the ability of computers not just to make predictions but also to show reasons for doing so.

Issues within the book involve philosophy, religion, ethics, the arts and politics giving it a wide appeal to readers outside the computer field. It costs £12.95 and can be obtained from Viking Press, 536 King's Road, London SW10 0UH.

Second-hand magazine

SELLING and buying micros or software is no longer a problem according to *Micro Mart,* a new fortnightly newspaper published by ECC Publications, which consists of advertisements and looks like a computer version of *Exchange and Mart.*

It is aimed at the two and a half million users of home computers, a third of whom say that they will upgrade to new machines within the next twelve months.

Micro Mart costs 35 pence and carries classified and display advertising for private and business sales. Its first print run was 70,000 copies and was backed by a £100,000 television, radio and press advertising campaign.

Barry Hazel, assistant managing director of ECC, explains how the company became concerned with the need to fill the niche in the magazine market. "Through our existing involvement in publishing in the micro business, we were very aware of the increasingly high turnover of products amongst customers and suspected that the market was now big enough to justify — and support — a magazine devoted entirely to buying and selling computers and computer-related products.

"Our slogan for Micro Mart is 'the buy-word for selling computers' and all the signs are that it has a very healthy future."

A wealth of free information is yours for the asking with the TTX 2000 Teletext adaptor.

The new TTX 2000 adaptor lets you use Teletext in a way that's never been done before.

Now you can link together your ordinary T.V. and your standard Spectrum and call up a wealth of broadcast information on Ceefax and Oracle covering just about everything from news, sport, reviews and entertainment to competitions, financial advice, advertisements and consumer topics.

You can store Teletext pages on Microdrive or produce immediate hard-copy printout, and download the Spectrum Telesoftware being jointly transmitted by O.E. Limited and the broadcasting companies exclusively for TTX 2000 users (upgrade downloader ROM available shortly).

The TTX 2000 is very simple to use and no modifications at all are needed to your Spectrum or T.V. Once you're set up you don't pay a penny more, no matter how often you use the system. Just think – no connection charges, subscriptions or "access time" bills.

Just a few simple commands let you find your way into the information rich world of Teletext.

Return the coupon, or contact our help desk for more information.

oel

O.E. Ltd., North Point,
Gilwilly Industrial Estate,
Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 9BN.
Tel: 0768 66748

Please send me a TTX 2000. I enclose a cheque/P.O. made payable to O.E. Ltd. for £143.75 including VAT and P&P.*
Please charge my Access/Visa account (delete as necessary).

Card No._____

Name_____

Address_____

_____

Postcode_____ Tel:_____

*Supplied complete with power supply, interconnecting ribbon cable and full instructions.
Please allow 28 days for delivery.

3" DISK DRIVE FOR YOUR SPECTRUM

Upgrade your Spectrum to a professional level with the Thurnall Disk system available now.

- No Spectrum Memory Used-Built in full Disk BASIC operating system.
- RS232C printer connection port at rear end of drive-only £20.00 extra.
- Simple complete system in one box. No extra interfaces or cables required. Just plug into your spectrum and you're away.
- High speed access to files and programmes typically less than one second to LOAD/SAVE or ERASE a file.
- Can be used with 16k or 48k spectrum
- Latest format 3" disks giving 150k of formatted capacity. (expanded to 300k with a second drive).

Prices (include VAT and delivery): Model I-£199.00 Model II(includes RS232C)-£219.00 Second Drive-£179.00 3" Disks-£4.60.

For more information send your name and address to Thurnall Electronics Ltd, Freepost (no stamp required) Cadishead, Manchester M30 6DX. Or ring 061-775-7922 Telephone orders by Access or Barclay Card only

Name _____

Address _____

_____

thurnall

NOW IN SELECTED OUTLETS OF W.H. SMITH

Green Fingers

GARDEN PLANT DIRECTORY

Here's your FIRST computerised plant database!

* **Only 80 seconds to find the ideal plants to fit your requirements.**
  You can ask for plants that suit up to any 5 out of 17 characteristics **simultaneously** (height, hardiness, sun, water and soil needs, pruning, month of flowering, colour, etc.).
* **Comprehensive details of over 350 flowers, shrubs and trees.**
* **You can look up plants using Latin names, common names, or part of names** (e.g. 'lily' displays nine different types of lily, any one of which you can obtain fuller details within 60 seconds).

To order cassettes for 48k SINCLAIR SPECTRUM send cheque/postal order for £8.95 to:

PRACTICAL SOFTWARE,
DEPT. SU,
40 WORPLE ROAD,
LONDON, SW19.

THE FABULOUS CASSETTE 50 FROM cascade

ONLY £9.95 (INC. P&P and VAT)

VALUE that's out of this world

SPECTRUM

'Incredibly frustrating!' That's the verdict on Cassette-50's FROGGER. Satisfied users say it's one of the most challenging you'll find - it's almost as good as the arcade version too. Plus 49 other tactical, logical and adventure games featuring multi-coloured and user-defined graphics, scrolling and full use of the spectrum sound capabilities. You'll keep coming back for more!

No.	Game	No.	Game	No.	Game
1	MAZE EATER	18	THIN ICE	34	GHOSTS
2	GALACTIC ATTACK	19	ORBITTER	35	SUBMARINES
3	SPACE MISSION	20	MOTORWAY	36	ROCKET LAUNCH
4	LUNAR LANDING	21	FORCE FIELD	37	PLANETS
5	PLASMA BOLT	22	NIM	38	BLACK HOLE
6	STARTREK	23	TUNNEL ESCAPE	39	DYNAMITE
7	RADAR LANDING	24	BARREL JUMP	40	DO YOUR SUMS
8	ATTACKER	25	CANNONBALL BATTLE	41	DERBY DASH
9	GALACTIC DOG FIGHT	26	OVERTAKE	42	SPACE SEARCH
10	PSION ATTACK	27	SITTING TARGET	43	UNIVERSE
11	IVASIVE ACTION	28	SMASH THE WINDOWS	44	RATS
12	NOUGHTS AND CROSSES	29	SPACE SHIP	45	TANKER
13	BOGGLES	30	JET FLIGHT	46	PARACHUTE
14	PONTOON	31	PHASER	47	JET MOBILE
15	SKI JUMP	32	INTRUDER	48	HIGH RISE
16	HANGMAN	33	INFERNO	49	THE FORCE
17	OLD BONES			50	EXCHANGE

50 GAMES ALSO AVAILABLE FOR ZX81

WE PAY TOP PRICES FOR TOP QUALITY GAMES

NOW AVAILABLE FOR commodore 64 ELECTRON Atmos DRAGON BBC A/B Spectrum apple ATARI ORIC-1 ZX81 VIC 20

50 GAMES ON ONE CASSETTE

EXPRESS DELIVERY- ORDER NOW

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____ Post Code _____

Country _____

Dealers & Stockists enquiries welcome.

Please send me by return of post, Cassette 50 at £9.95 per tape. I enclose a cheque/postal order for

£ _____ made payable to Cascade Games Ltd.

Please debit my Access No. _____

COMMODORE 64 ☐ VIC 20 ☐ ORIC-1 ☐ BBC A/B ☐
SPECTRUM ☐ ELECTRON ☐ ZX 81 ☐ APPLE ☐
ATARI ☐ ATMOS ☐ DRAGON ☐ ✓

Cascade Games Ltd.,
Suite 4, 1-3 Haywra Crescent, Harrogate,
North Yorkshire, HG1 5BG. England.
Telephone: (0423) 504526.

SU/12'84

SPECTRUM'S ADVANCED KEYBOARD

HI-QUALITY

■ The **LO>>PROFILE** professional keyboard is the ultimate upgrade for your Spectrum. By replacing its existing keyboard with a high quality **LO>>PROFILE**, you give this world-beating computer the keyboard it deserves.

■ The **LO>>PROFILE** is a full size QWERTY keyboard with full-travel positive-action keys for super-fast entry of programs and data. Presented in an ultra-modern and robust enclosure, the **LO>>PROFILE** is elegantly styled and is inclined forwards for convenient operation.

■ Featuring a full size space bar with dedicated numeric and curser keypad the **LO>>PROFILE** increases the number of keys from 40 to 53. A combination of clearly labelled, sculptured and height-adjusted keys aids the advance to fault-free touch-typing.

■ Advanced Memory Systems have established an excellent reputation for product reliability and prompt delivery. This product has been tested to an impressive 20,000,000 depressions per key and AMS offer a full one year guarantee.

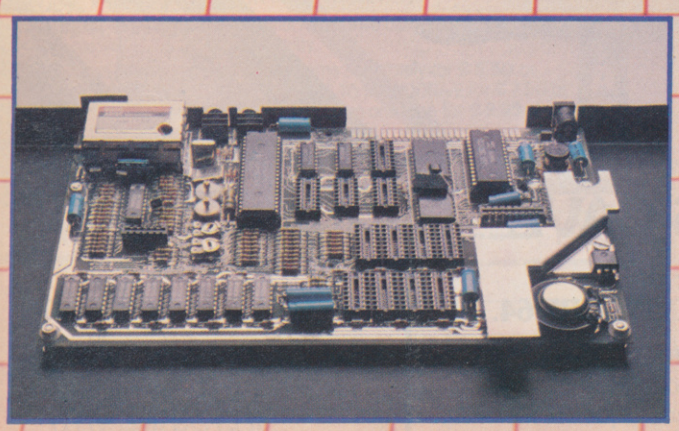
LO>PROFILE

£49-95
plus £2.50 p&p (VAT inclusive)

THE LO>>PROFILE PROFESSIONAL FROM ADVANCED MEMORY SYSTEMS LIMITED.

Fitting your Spectrum computer board into the **LO>>PROFILE** keyboard is easy. All you need is a screwdriver to secure the board onto the base of the keyboard enclosure using the mountings provided. The **LO>>PROFILE** is compatable with all Spectrum add-ons.

If not available from one of our 200+ dealers then fill in the coupon and we will send you a **LO>>PROFILE** with our full no-quibble money-back guarantee. Or phone 0925 602690/ 62907 for instant Access or Visa orders.



Please send No____ **Lo>>Profile Keyboard** at £49.95 plus £2.50 p&p (VAT inclusive)
I enclose a cheque/PO for £..... or debit my credit card.
Card No
☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ ☐ Barclaycard ☐ Access card
Signature _____ Date _____
Name _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
To: Advanced Memory Systems Ltd.,
Woodside Technology Centre,
Green Lane, Appleton, Warrington WA4 5NG
SU/12/84

DORCAS SOFTWARE™

PRESENT

THE Runes OF Zendos

- High Resolution Graphics
- Full Animation
- Sentence Input
- 12 Separate adventures
- Sound Effects

The tiny principality of DORCASIA was a pleasant fertile land until the wizard ZENDOS used his evil powers to cast the country into perpetual darkness until all citizens pledge obedience to him.

It is known that through the SPELL OF DARKNESS Zendos has trapped the spirit of each month into one of 12 GOLDEN TEMPUS RUNES or RUNIC HOUR GLASSES hidden deep within his mysterious and magical castle.

As the land dies in the grip of the black desolation a hero must be found to locate and destroy the 12 hour glasses thus releasing the months and returning Dorcasia to the natural forces of the seasons.

Each glass has a RUNIC inscription around its base which you must read and understand. Only saying these words will lift that part of the spell. To protect the hour glasses Zendos has placed them in 12 separate rooms in his castle, each room linked to a different exterior gateway by a devious route.

Depending on which entrance you select Zendos casts spells which change the locations of rooms within his castle to confuse you. The menacing creatures and challenging problems which confront you at every turn mean that only the brave and the clever will succeed.

SPECTRUM 48K

COMPATIBLE WITH sinclair ZX Microdrive

THE ORACLE'S CAVE

Our best seller available for the 48K SPECTRUM and COMMODORE 64.

Oracle's Cave is a unique adventure game featuring continuously displayed high resolution graphics and text, a new cave layout and event sequence for every game and a time limit on every adventure.

Available on cassette from Selected Branches of Boots WHSMITH and other leading retailers or direct from:

DORCAS SOFTWARE

3 The Oasis, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8QS

at £7.95 (inc. VAT)

Postage and Packing FREE

Friendly Face

MICRODRIVE UTILITY

Add these menu-driven loop routines to your programs for quick and easy cartridge file management. Now includes FORMAT routine giving maximum cartridge capacity.
Self duplicating "run" routine to catalog, load or erase any program on cartridge.
Separate routines ready to merge with MASTERFILE and TASWORD TWO, for trouble free, daily professional use with Microdrives or cassette backup.
Includes around 10K of Basic routines, and 5000-word instruction manual.
Cartridge version now includes scheduler and memo pad formats for Masterfile.

MONITOR

P.O. Box 442 London NW7 2JF
Phone: 01-959 1787
Cable: MONITOR London NW7

Cassette £6.95
Cartridge £12.95
Incl VAT

Leonardo

SIMPLY THE MOST ADVANCED SPECTRUM GRAPHICS PACKAGE.

For programmers, artists, draughtsmen, or just plain doodlers.

Special Draw Functions	Leonardo	C.A.D.	Melbourne Draw	Paintbox
Line (solid or dotted)	●	●		
Circle	●	●		●
Arc	●			●
Ellipse	●			
3D Cubes	●	●		
Fill	●	●	●	●
Scaling of Objects	●		●	
Pixel scrolling of window or entire screen	●		●	
Merge pictures	●			
U.D.G. creation	●	●	●	●
Pattern Generator	●			
Separate screen and colour editing.	●	●		

The table demonstrates the capabilities of LEONARDO against the best selling similar packages. LEONARDO'S facilities do not stop there however. In fact over 50 commands are available making this the most advanced and useful graphics package yet produced for the SPECTRUM 48K.

- Compatible with all leading joysticks.
- Clear commands make LEONARDO easy to use.
- Complete with a comprehensive 30 page instruction manual.

£9.95

CREATIVE SPARKS

Creative Sparks, 296 Farnborough Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7NF.

Available from All good computer software stockists.
Send me (tick as required)
☐ **LEONARDO** TNDC301 **£9.95**
☐ My local stockist's address
☐ Your full list of games
Game/s at **£9.95** each £ : p
+ single P&P sum : 30p
Total to send £ : p

Method of payment: By cheque or PO (no cash) made payable to **TECS** or
Enter card no.
☐ By Access
☐ Barclaycard
Sign below:

Credit card sales: UK buyers only. Response within 21 days.
Creative Sparks, Department MO, 296 Farnborough Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7NF. Telephone: (0252) 518364.

Name
Address

SU1284

!NEW VERSION!

TAPE TO MICRODRIVE

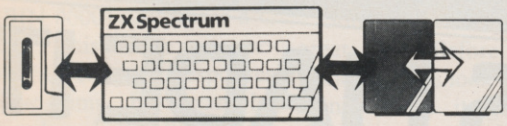
MICRODRIVE TO TAPE

Would you like to transfer your Spectrum programs from

① **MICRODRIVE TO MICRODRIVE**
② **TAPE TO MICRODRIVE**
③ **TAPE TO TAPE**
④ **MICRODRIVE TO TAPE**

Then do it with

TRANS-EXPRESS



TRANS-EXPRESS is the most comprehensive package of four m/c utilities for transferring Spectrum programs. They are user-friendly, simple to use, reliable & very efficient. They will enable you to transfer any kind of programs up to the full 48.0k length. TAPE TO MICRODRIVE will also automatically, if necessary, modify, re-structure & relocate both BASIC and m/c to RUN from microdrives.

TRANS-EXPRESS is an essential microdrive companion and an invaluable software back-up utility.

You can buy each of the four programs separately for **£ 5.50** or TAPE TO MICRODRIVE & MICRODRIVE TO MICRODRIVE for **£ 7.50** or an entire package of all four programs on one tape for **£ 9.95** or on a microdrive cartridge for **£ 14.95** only.

M'DRIVE TO M'DRIVE

Please send me a copy of **TRANS-EXPRESS** ① ② ③ ④ Please tick where applicable WM
I enclose cheque/PO for ..... (European orders please add £1, overseas £2)
Name/Address .....

ROMANTIC ROBOT 113 Melrose Ave, London NW2

HE'S HERE! HE'S MADE IT!

Son of Blagger for 48K Spectrum

Relive the daring exploits of Roger the Dodger through his prodigy Slippery Sid. More skill, more nerve, this cool little character seeks not only to follow in his famous parent's footsteps, but to establish some amazing feats of his own. Money's not his game. Espionage is his middle name and having forced his way into the National Security HQ he's faced with a no return journey through one of the most dangerous, most complex buildings in the land. Can he successfully complete a nerve tingling search for the golden keys – his only means of escape – or this time has his skill and daring taken him too far. Watch out for those weird killer security guards – you never know what chilling surprises the mad scientists have produced – and beware the floor doesn't disappear from under your feet, sending you to an early grave.

£5.95

Available from all good dealers or direct from:

Alligata Software Ltd
1 Orange Street, Sheffield S1 4DW
Tel: (0742) 755796

Alligata Software Limited

A change of cursors

ALTHOUGH I AM an ardent follower of Andrew Hewson's Helpline articles his reply to Peter Groenewald is not entirely correct. It is possible to force a cursor change, and such changes can prove quite useful.

System Variable MODE (23617) can be POKEd with 1 to force a cursor change to E mode or 2 to produce G mode. The latter is of little practical value as it is just as convenient to use CAPS SHIFT 8 as G mode stays until cancelled.

Not so with E mode. To enter user-defined graphics bytes in BINary is helpful but tedious as it is necessary to go into E mode to produce the BIN token for each byte. This short routine will force an E cursor so only the B key need be pressed to generate the BIN:

```
1000 INPUT "How many udgs (starting at A)?";n: FOR f=USR "a" TO USR "a"+8*n-1:POKE 23617,1: INPUT i: POKE f,i: NEXT f
```

Changing between L and C modes is quite easy under software control. The System Variable which goes under the cryptic name of MORE FLAGS (23658) is the key. Bit 3 holds 0 for L mode or 1 for C mode so POKEing with 8 (BIN 00001000) forces a C cursor. This can be very useful when checking responses in programs. For example, the rather clumsy line:

```
1000 PRINT "Press Y to play again": PAUSE 0: IF INKEY$="y" OR INKEY$="Y" OR INKEY$=" AND " OR INKEY$="STR$ " OR INKEY$= " " THEN RUN
```

necessary to check all the possible responses to key Y, can be replaced by:

```
1000 PRINT "Press Y to play again": POKE 23658,8: PAUSE 0: IF INKEY$="Y" THEN RUN
```

as, with CAPS LOCK set the response must be "Y". Of course the user could cancel the C mode before answering but this would have to be a conscious act of sabotage and such people deserve all the crashes they get. POKE 23658,0 will reset to the L cursor.

Clyde Bish,
Clyst St. Mary,
Devon.

You better believe it

I HAVE REACHED level 79 on **3D Cosmic Ghost Cockerel,** for the ZX-Quantum-86. When you bang the rats on the head, I have found you score no points at all, unless you have fitted a dk'tronics 40 key full-moving keyboard with separate numeric keypad.

Please tell me why.

Simon Godfrey,
Chesterfield,
Derbyshire.

● *Your problem is to do with the non-standard 287-pin DIN connection. To correct the fault, solder a Megahype 3-way RS232 Q-drive Interface to the ninth pin. That will of course invalidate your guarantee.*

Please, more adventures

I AM A FAN of *Dungeons and Dragons* so my only complaint is there is not enough on adventure games.

Software Directory is a great idea. Before I buy a game I always look to see how many marks it got. Other than the one complaint, your magazine is number one. Keep up the good work *Sinclair User.*

Alan Jones,
Wrexham,
Clwyd.

Compiler in reverse?

IS THERE a program available on the market which will change machine code into Basic. Also, are you able to advise me of the code which will take you onto any part of **Jet Set Willy?**

Richard Burnett,
Beverley,
North Humberside.

● *There is no program which can translate machine code into Basic. Indeed, such a program would be impossible to write because of the nature of machine code, although it is possible to compile Basic into code. Even if there were, what would anybody want one for?*

The relevant POKE for Jet Set Willy, along with all sorts of other wacky routines for the game, can be found in the August issue of Sinclair User.

Turkey is no chicken

I WOULD LIKE TO comment on your review of **River Rescue** by Creative Sparks. I think the game is worth more than a Gilbert Factor of three since in later levels planes, bridges and mines come into play which makes the game much more exciting to play.

Colin Campbell,
Cardiff.

Self-starter programming

CAN YOU tell me how to get programs to auto-run on the ZX-81?

I would like to add that everyone seems to complain about ZX-81s not working. I have had mine for almost two years and I have not had one complaint. That applies to my friends who own ZX-81s as well.

Mark Homans,
Leamington Spa.

● *To make your ZX-81 programs auto-run, incorporate the usual SAVE command within the program, e.g. 900 SAVE "name". Type RUN 900, start the tape recorder and then press NEWLINE.*

Venetian connection

I AM AN ITALIAN boy and I would like to exchange my programs with anybody reading my letter. Send your list to: Scarpa Mauro, Via Giorgione 9, 30038 Spinea (VE), Italy, and I will answer you.

Scarpa Mauro,
Venice,
Italy.

Suffering Sabreman

I AM VERY impressed with **Sabre Wulf** from Ultimate but have found two problems which I cannot understand. Firstly there are the native warriors, who get on my nerves by being indestructible. I am always getting killed by them, and it puts me off.

Secondly, I have seen a map of the Sabre Wulf jungle and I cannot figure out why there are tracks which are cut off from the others. Is there any way to get into them as there are often totem poles and rings and diamonds there? I thought there might be a secret passage to get into them but unfortunately I cannot seem to find one.

Adrian Ford,
Sheffield.

Daley in defeat

DECATHLON, by Ocean, is a brilliant game and has excellent graphics, but is almost impossible to load. I have had nothing but problems and I am sure I am not the only one. You need at least half an hour to load it, and then it is not guaranteed to work. Ocean should improve the loading.

By saying this I would not want to discourage anyone from buying it. When it works, it is the best game I have seen for the Spectrum.

Peter Davis,
Cinderford,
Gloucestershire.

more letters on page 24

Gilbert is innocent

STEVEN ROBBIE, in the September issue, complained that **Halls of the Things** was not worth a Gilbert Factor of 9, and that you needed six hands to play it.

I think the graphics are very good and smooth moving. The point of having so many commands and keys is that you pick the ones you think are the best to use. You do not use all of them. If you get tangled up with the keys, you can press '1', which pauses the game.

Also Steven thought that **Maziacs** was not worth a Gilbert Factor of 8. Has Steven tried level four a few times? If you complete that, it is probably because you got an easier maze — each one is different.

To top all of that, he complained that John Gilbert should be sacked. Do not worry, Gilbert, someone still supports you.

Suzanne Madison,
Gosforth,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

Never forget the ZX-81

I AM WRITING to say how disappointed I am with ZX-81 Software Scene. This usually features only two games. I then looked at Spectrum Software Scene, which contained a satisfying eight games. In future editions could you please review a few more games pleased.

I also noticed in the September edition a small mistake in the program **Caves of Doom** for the ZX-81. In line 10 it reads "10 FOR X=16514 TO 16560". It should read "10 FOR X=16514 TO 16559".

Robert Tempest,
Castle Bromwich,
Birmingham.

● *The amount of space devoted to ZX-81 software reviews is a direct reflection of the number of games we receive compared to Spectrum software. We would dearly like to review more, but can only write about what is being produced by the industry.*

Theodora's fan club

I'M MISSING Theodora Wood's comments on educational programs. Why?

Why also are there not more educational programs for the Spectrum? It seems that the BBC can make them. That degrades the Spectrum almost to a toy.

Rosa Wieloely,
Bruges,
Belgium.

● *Theo's many fans will be delighted to know she is still alive and kicking. In recent months we have not received enough educational software to justify a full article, but will continue to review such programs in the Software Scene section of the magazine. There are certainly no plans for dropping the education content.*

Subtle tip for bikers

I RECENTLY BOUGHT **Full Throttle** by Micromega. It is an excellent game but I seem to have found a bug in it. It is useful if you are in the tail of the field.

At the end of the last lap of the race when the word FINISH flashes on the screen, stop your bike just in front of the finishing line. Wait until the first of the other bikers appears on the screen, then accelerate over the line.

David Morgan,
Handsworth Wood,
Birmingham.

new for SPECTRUM 48K

Widgit Software Ltd

"HOW NICE IT IS TO SEE ADVENTURES THAT REALLY MAKE PEOPLE THINK"

"BEST WIDGIT PROGRAM SO FAR"

Castle of Dreams £7·95

Tired of arcade games? Don't fancy a three month adventure? Want something a bit more thought provoking?
Then pit your wits against the Magician Klingsor and save the world from his evil
A different type of program from Widgit designed for grown-ups and those who feel it

ALSO Adventure Playground

Two absorbing explorations for juniors £7·95

● Games you can play over again; never the same ones twice ●

Other titles from WIDGIT: THE HUMPTY DUMPTY MYSTERY £6·25 PATHFINDER £5·95
ALPHABET, COUNTING, SHAPE SORTER & ADDING & SUBTRACTING £5·25 each
Also QUICK THINKING & LOOK SHARP published by MIRRORSOFT

WIDGIT SOFTWARE is available from 48 DURHAM ROAD, LONDON N2 9DT and from Boots WHSMITH and your usual computer shop

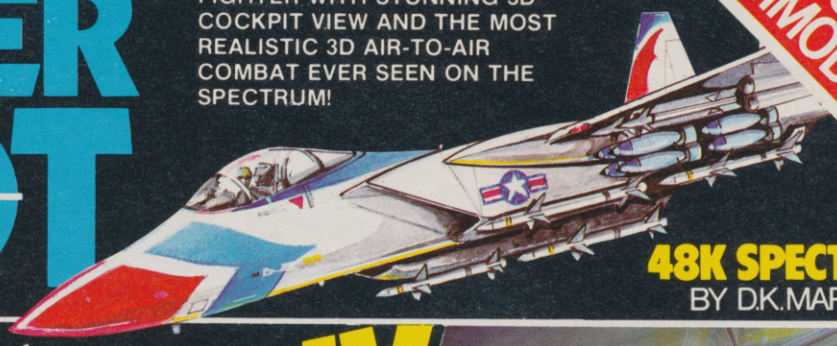
GSH Guild of Software Houses

ONLY THE BEST BECOME A....

FIGHTER PILOT

A SPECTACULAR FLIGHT SIMULATION OF THE WORLD'S MOST EXCITING JET FIGHTER WITH STUNNING 3D COCKPIT VIEW AND THE MOST REALISTIC 3D AIR-TO-AIR COMBAT EVER SEEN ON THE SPECTRUM!

FIGHTER PILOT NOW ON COMMODORE 64



48K SPECTRUM
BY D.K.MARSHALL

Only the bravest fly .....

™ TOMAHAWK

48K SPECTRUM BY D.K.MARSHALL

FROM THE AUTHOR OF FIGHTER PILOT...THE FIRST AUTHENTIC HELICOPTER SIMULATION FOR THE ZX SPECTRUM. CLIMB INTO THE HOT SEAT OF THE MEANEST, DEADLIEST COMBAT HELICOPTER EVER TO RULE THE SKIES!

COMING SOON!

Only the fastest win in ....

™ TT RACER

48K SPECTRUM BY R.J.SWIFT

RACING SIMULATION FOR THE SPECTRUM. TT RACER PUTS YOU ON THE HOT SEAT, RACING FOR THE FINISHING LINE. YOU'LL NEED TO BE A TOP RIDER TO TAKE THE WINNING FLAG AS ONLY THE FASTEST WIN!

ONLY ACES SURVIVE IN ....

NIGHT GUNNER

48K SPECTRUM BY R.J.SWIFT

THE AMAZING AIR BATTLE SCENARIO THAT STRETCHES YOU TO THE VERY LIMIT — GUNS BLAZING, ENEMY FIGHTERS ATTACK FROM ALL DIRECTIONS — 3D GROUND ATTACK SORTIES AND THERE'S STILL THE FLIGHT BACK HOME!

Selected products available from: Boots, Woolworths, H.M.V., Menzies, W.H.Smith, Greens, Lasky's, Currys, Rumbelows, Selfridges, Spectrum Dealers, Video Palace, Zappo and all good computer shops.

COMMODORE 64

Fighter Pilot	Disk	☐ £14.95
Fighter Pilot	Cassette	☐ £9.95

SPECTRUM

Night Gunner	48K	☐ £6.95
Fighter Pilot	48K	☐ £7.95
Tomahawk	48K	Coming
TT Racer	48K	soon

VAT and p. & p. inclusive within UK
(Overseas inc. 55p. per cassette)

Cheques payable to Digital Integration Ltd

I enclose a cheque/P.O. for_____Total

Name_____

Address_____

_____

Or debit my Access Account No.

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Access

Please send to Digital Integration, Dept Watchmoor Trade Centre, Watchmoor Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3AJ.

Trade and Export enquiries welcome. Lifetime Guarantee.

DIGITAL INTEGRATION

Watchmoor Trade Centre,
Watchmoor Road, Camberley,
Surrey GU15 3AJ

Tele Sales
(0276) 684959

TM Trademark

Don't fool with fireworks..

when y

SPECTRUM 48k
6.90

SPECTRUM 48k
6.90

DY

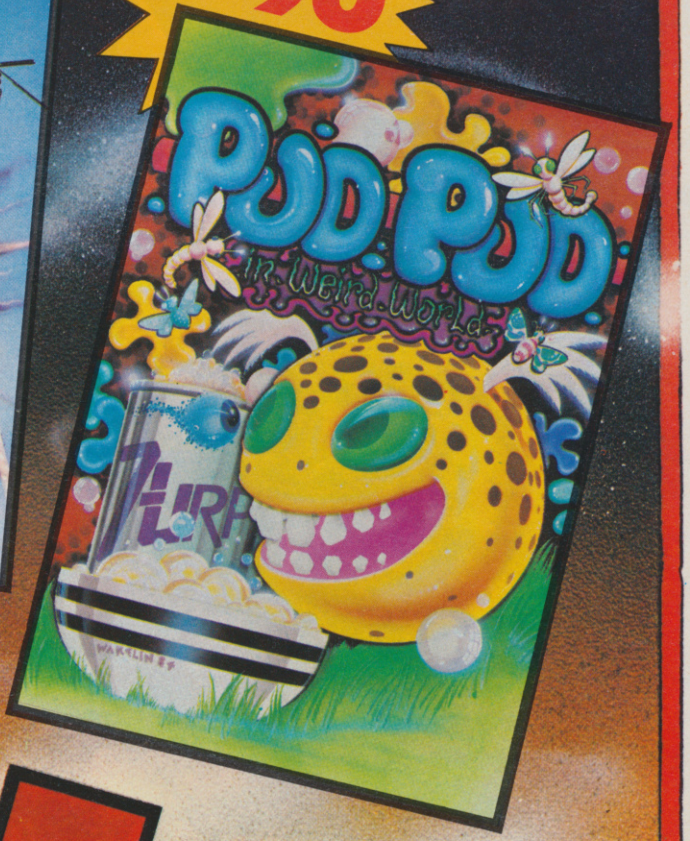
Ocean Software
Ocean House
6 Central Street
Manchester M2 5NS

Ocean Software is available from all good

you can play with...

SPECTRUM 48k
6.90

SPECTRUM 48k
6.90



NAMITE

ocean

Telephone:
061 · 832 6633
Telex:
669977 Oceans G

good ftware dealers and selected branches of: WOOLWORTH, WHSMITH, Boots, John Menzies, LASKYS, Rumbelows and Spectrum Shops

A L I E N

In space no one can hear you scream.

NAVIGATOR
Shy, Skilful and Intelligent — Panics Easily.

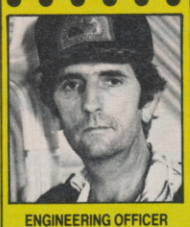
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Direct, Imaginative, Cautious, Loyal.

SCIENCE OFFICER
Secretive, Unlikeable, Brilliant — Occasionally Illogical.

CAPTAIN
Solid, Dependable, Courageous — Excellent Leader.

ENGINEERING OFFICER
Physically Strong, Low I.Q. Potentially Rebellious

3RD OFFICER
Wilful, Ambitious, Authoratitive, Resourceful.



ENGINEERING OFFICER
Cynical, Rebellious, Untrustworthy, Unflappable.

THE CRE
Personnel
files follow
yours to
command
well almos

MIND GAMES
SPECTRUM 48K · CBM64

Argus Press Software Group

Featuring the unique Personality Control System

£8.99

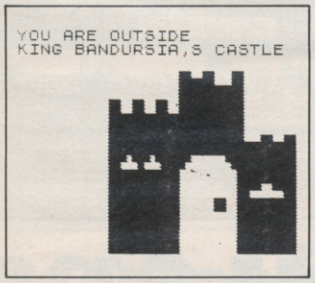
No. 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB, Telephone 01-437 0626

Trouble in threes

TWO GRAPHICS adventures and a text-only adventure on one tape for the ZX-81 must represent good value of a sort, especially at only £3.20. The latest collection from Gavin Barker provides a reasonable introduction to adventure games, but is unlikely to fire the imagination of seasoned players.

The Challenge pits you against an evil knight in a mediaeval setting. You must equip yourself with the necessary weapons and armour, and seek out the challenger in his fastness.

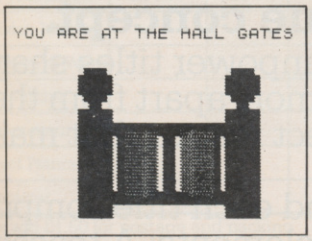
The graphics are simple block pictures of castles, bridges, temples and the like, and the text is brief and occasionally badly spelt. The route to success is intricate, although there are a number

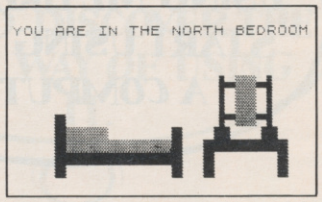


of ways of achieving your goal, and all commands are drawn from a fairly limited vocabulary using standard two or three word inputs.

With over thirty-five locations and plenty of juggling with objects to be done — you are only allowed five at a time — it will take some time to work out your strategy.

Haunted House is written along similar lines, but in this case the graphics are rather better although the adventure itself is slightly less complex. Additionally there is a fight routine which en-





ables you to deal with Ghosts, Mad Axemen, or a retired hangman. What Albert Pierrepoint is doing in an adventure game is not clear, however. You are also allowed to bribe the monsters if you have enough gold.

Both games include an interesting feature whereby if an object is already at a location then you cannot drop anything else there. That makes it all the more difficult to organise what you are carrying effectively, as you may have to backtrack a long way in order to find an empty location in order to drop such bulky and unwanted objects as a used match. It may not be very realistic but at least it increases the complexity of the game.

The third adventure is a text-only offering called **The Black Staff.** The game is rather more humorous than the other two, and is set in the standard world of wizards and dragons. Your job is to regain possession of the staff of the title. The ancient piece of wood used to belong to an old wizard but was stolen by some dwarfs. The dwarfs were turned to stone through neglecting the daily care of the staff and you are admonished at the start of the program to watch out or the same could happen to you.

The vocabulary for the adventure is rather wider than that of the other two, and some of the puzzles are more complicated, but by and large the game is of only moderate difficulty and should not take too long to solve.

Taking each on its merits, none of the adventures offers the kind of excitement of, for example, those from Artic or Carnell, but given that they are presented as a package at a reasonably low price, they do represent value for money.

The only real pity is that they were not written in machine-code, which would allow space for a considerably more sophisticated text interpreter and prevent the need for doing everything in FAST mode, thus causing the screen to flicker unpleasantly every time a key is pressed. That does not cause problems in the third adventure, but impairs the quality of the graphics in the first two, which would otherwise be much more pleasing.

Chris Bourne

ADVENTURE
Memory: **16K**
Price: **£3.20**
Gilbert Factor: **6**

Two digit exercise

SOME people find coping with hex-code and least significant bytes as easy as being sick on Watney's, but for every one of those hyperactive minds there are at least two humdrum souls who never even make it past binary numbers.

Binary Brains from Pooter aims to alleviate their misery by providing a primer in the theory of binary numbers, taking in octal and hexadecimal along the way. Once you have struggled through the primer, side two of the tape contains a mastermind-type game to see if you absorbed any of the material.

The information in the primer is accompanied by questions. The first set of questions is very boring, as it follows a fixed pattern. That is no doubt deliberate, in order to drum home the basic patterns formed by numbers, but may convince the less sensitive that number bases are as dull as they always thought. After the first round, the second asks more random questions.

The game asks you to guess at a number by entering a decimal number. The computer converts your guess into binary and compares it with its own number, and then tells you which digits you got correct. In order to win, and avoid the humiliating nickname of 'Decimal Brain' you will have to do a fair few decimal-binary and binary-decimal conversions in your head.

There is an element of fun in the program, but the first part is stodgy and the game is either trivial or impossible, depending on whether you understood the primer or not. There has to be a more exciting and painless way of getting across the necessary information. Like reading a simple book, perhaps?

Available from Pooter Games, 24 Parsloes Avenue, Dagenham, Essex.

Chris Bourne

BINARY BRAINS
Memory: **16K**
Price: **£1.85**
Gilbert Factor: **5**

First, a question.

Who do you think are the world's most avid consumers of microcomputers?

The ingenious Japanese? The fashionable French? The acquisitive Americans?

Believe it or not, it's we British who own more micros per person than any other nation on earth.

Yet, despite its amazing impact, the microcomputer has only just begun to scratch at the surface of our lives. Without doubt, the best is yet to come.

Use and Abuse.

In several recent surveys, some astonishing facts about micro use and abuse were revealed.

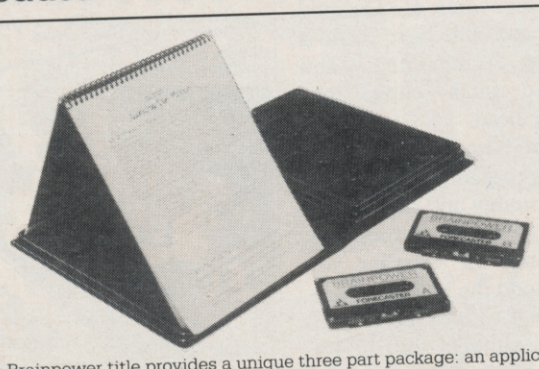
It was discovered that the micro is hopelessly under-utilised. If you're already a micro owner, your own experience may well confirm this unhappy state of affairs.

Brainpower. A source of knowledge.

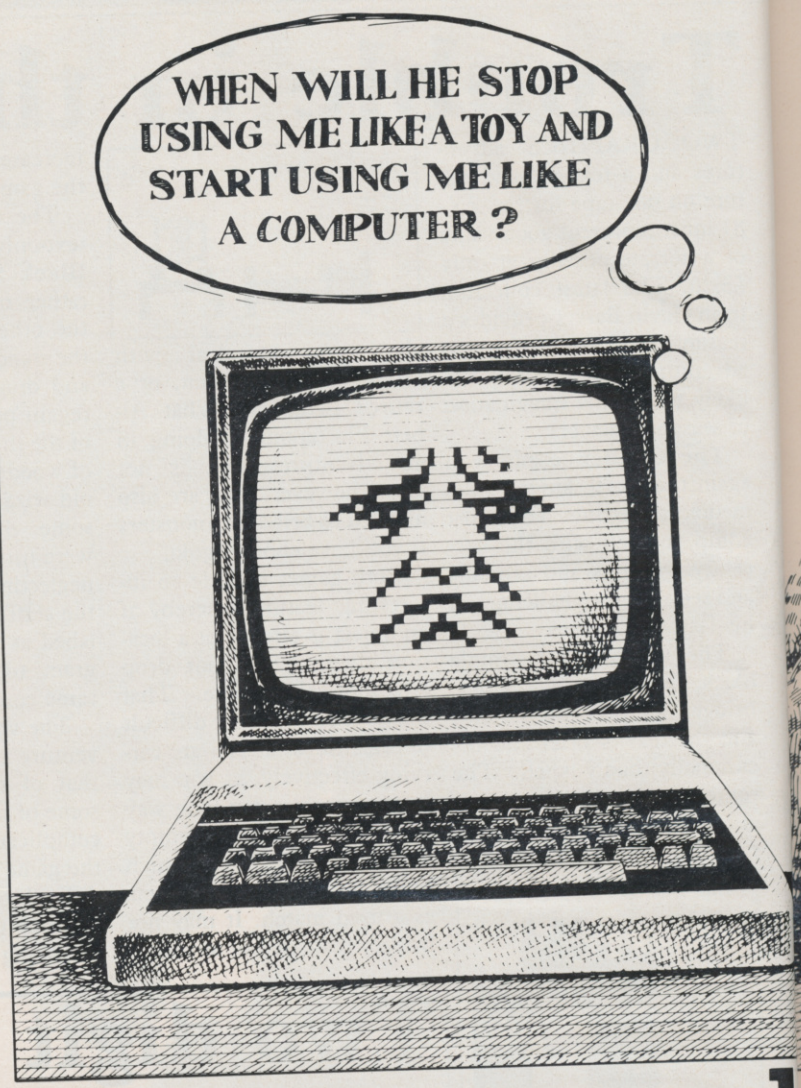
For thousands of years, the key to self improvement has been in the hands of the written word. Now, thanks to the Brainpower range, it's very much in the hands of the micro.

As the Brainpower range demonstrates, this does not require prior knowledge of micros, or how they work.

The Brainpower concept has been devised as *integrated* applications and educational software. And its aim is to stretch both your mind and your imagination.



Each Brainpower title provides a unique three part package: an applications program; a teaching program and an illustrated manual and interactive tutorial – integrated applications and educational software



Now you and bring out the b

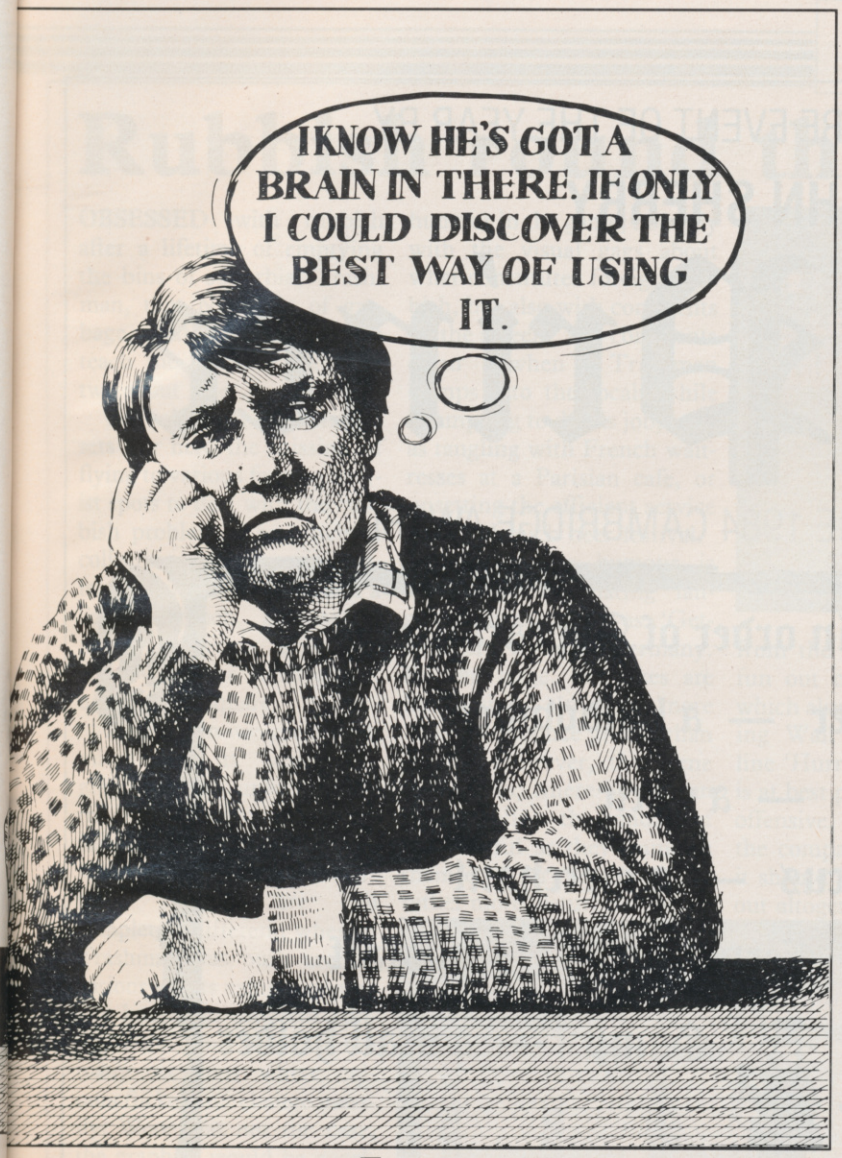
It offers a unique way to realise your own full potential and that of you micro. In a way you could never hope t achieve from the printed word alone.

In this respect, the Brainpower range stands on its own.

A unique concept.

All the Brainpower titles share one thing in common, apart from their stimulating subject matter, that make them unique.

You will find each title comprise three distinctive elements: A teaching program that helps you to get to grips



d our micro can bst in each other.

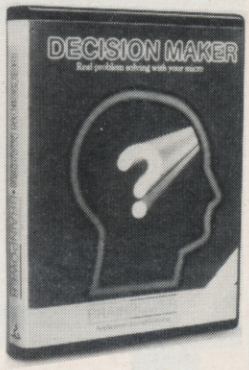
with the subject at your own pace. An applications program to put what you learn into action. And finally, with each package, you get an expertly written book and interactive tutorial.

STAR WATCHER

The secrets of the heavens are yours. Isolate all the constellations as well as main stars for easy identification. Even turn stars and constellations on and off at will. Screen by screen, you will see exactly how the 1,500 brightest stars move through time and space. And all from any point on the Earth's surface at any time of the year.

Star Watcher is without doubt the definitive home observatory.

DECISION MAKER



Should you buy a new house? Change jobs? Have children? Start your own business? Such decisions should not be taken lightly. Armed with Decision Maker, you can be quite sure of examining every avenue, and arriving at a rational, structured answer.

If you value the way you run your life, you need Decision Maker.

NUMBERS AT WORK

Tackle all the number problems you're likely to face in daily and business life. From straightforward multiplication and division of fractions, through decimals, percentages, ratios, mark-ups and margins to compound interest, depreciation, VAT and PAYE.

Numbers at Work gives you a distinct edge, since you will be able to both understand and manipulate numbers at will.

PROJECT PLANNER

Project Planner teaches you how to divide even the most complex project down into meaningful components. Learn how to determine the length and importance of every single task, and those elements critical to the fulfilment of your plan. Even anticipate problems you hadn't envisaged.

You have the measure of any situation because you have the fullest possible grasp of all the factors which affect it.

FORECASTER

Forecaster takes the guesswork out of forecasting, by accepting that tomorrow's events will be best predicted on the basis of today's facts. Armed with Forecaster, sales targets and growth trends, even sporting events and election results can be accurately and very quickly predicted.

Invaluable to you in both your private and business life.

ENTREPRENEUR

Entrepreneur teaches you all the steps required to plan and start your own business. It will forecast your first 18 months' cash flows, generate your Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet. Help you in discussions with your bank manager and partners. Explain the notions of assets, liabilities, overheads, working capital, cash flow and break even point.

Invaluable to anyone who is planning a business venture.

	SPECTRUM 48K	BBC B Tape	BBC B DISK 40/80 Track	COMMODORE 64 Tape	COMMODORE 64 Disk
Tick your choice	£14.95	£19.95	£24.95	£19.95	£24.95
Decision Maker					
Numbers at Work					
Star Watcher					
Entrepreneur					
Project Planner					
Forecaster					

Please add £1.50 for postage and packing

* I enclose a cheque or postal order, crossed and made payable to Triptych Publishing Ltd for £_____

* Please debit my Access/ Barclaycard, number

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

TELEPHONE _____ SIGNATURE _____

Send to: Triptych Publishing Ltd, (TBL Book Service Ltd) FREEPOST, CAMBERLEY, SURREY GU15 3BR. All goods fully tested and returnable if in any way defective. Allow 28 days for delivery. *Delete as applicable. SU/12/84

BRAINPOWER

THE ADVENTURE EVENT OF THE YEAR BY

JOHN SHERRY

The Prince

WINNER OF THE 1984 CAMBRIDGE AWARD

Characters in order of Appearance:

Baron Grasper — a landowner

Ambrose — a cleric

Porcus — a merchant

Fernando — a tipstaff

Gamp — a stall holder

plus supporting cast

and finally

The Prince

THE FIRST ROLE PLAYING GAME FOR FOUR PLAYERS

Available for Spectrum 48K at £7.95 from larger branches of Boots or mail order from
Cases Computer Simulations Ltd., 14 Langton Way, London SE3 7TL
Telephone 01-858 0763

Rubbish round the world

OBSESSED with rubbish after a lifetime of emptying the bins of suburbia, Trashman, that Napoleon of garbage, is off to foreign parts to teach the world a thing or two about litter.

Travel With Trashman sets our hero the mission of flying to various famous tourist spots to deal with the rubbish problem. They include collecting roses from a Spanish bullring, coconuts from a Samoan beach, and secret papers fluttering from the windows of the KGB offices on the Red Square.

Trashman was greatly admired for its superlative graphics, but unfortunately the sequel does not match the earlier program in that respect. It is true that the thirteen screens are all completely different, whereas Trashman was built around various streets using the same few houses in different configurations, but there are too many occasions where colours flicker and change messily. Were that not the case, the graphics would be excellent, but as it is you are forced to conclude that New Generation has overreached itself slightly in designing screens too complex.

That does not, however, make the game any the less addictive, and on that score Travel with Trashman is a worthy successor to the original. You start with a fixed sum of money, with which to buy a ticket to a variety of destinations. The money is replenished according to your success in clearing up the rubbish at each location. That allows the player to try at least three screens immediately, even though unable to complete them. It also requires some tactical thinking from the more experienced player, in order to travel as cheaply as possible while still visiting all the locations.

As ever, New Generation has included its own style of humour in the game, not only with the visual gags about what constitutes foreign rubbish, but also with comments on the screen. The comments occur when Trashman bumps into the locals while attempting to do his job, such as tangling with French waitresses at a Parisian cafe, or upsetting the efficient service at the Munich beer festival.

Most of the humour is based on excruciating language jokes, such as 'Gettenze artz a vay' in Germany. By and large, the jokes are inoffensive, although more likely to produce groans than laughs. However, the scene in Benares, where Trashman has to collect the sandals of the faithful as they immerse themselves in the Ganges, is rather more disturbing. Apart from the concept of making fun out of religious beliefs, which also occurs at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, the line 'Hurry curry Trashman' is at best puerile and at worst offensive. If that was the best the company could think of, it should have left the screen out altogether.

If you are impervious to that sort of humour, and do not expect miracles of graphics programming, you will find the game great fun to play and highly addictive. There is a considerable range of difficulty in the various screens, and although the mechanics of picking up litter remain the same, you will have to change your tactics to suit each particular situation.

It is a pity, therefore, that New Generation could not have taken more care with the graphics and humour.

Chris Bourne

TRAVEL WITH TRASHMAN
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£5.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, Sinclair, Cursor**
Gilbert Factor: **7**

Buzz on the grapevine

BUZZ OFF from Electric Software is a fruity little program starring Bertie the Bee whose longing for sweet ripe strawberries and other assorted fruit gets him into a lot of trouble. He enters the Enchanted Orchard where his heart's desire hangs temptingly. Little does he know that a large spider is waiting for a wee bite too.

You must manoeuvre the bee around the screen collecting pieces of fruit as they appear. Once a piece has been eaten a portion of spider's web takes its place. If Bertie touches any part of the web down comes the nasty arachnid to collect his own lunch.

There are ten levels. In the first no web segments are visible but thereafter the spider will have spun bits of web to hinder Bertie in his task. As Bertie only moves in a straight line — bees do don't they? — getting round the screen is very difficult and the game requires large doses of concentration and care. The graphics are well-drawn, though necessarily limited to the bee, the spider and the fruit. The spider is distinctly menacing though Bertie looks rather bumbly.

This is the sort of arcade game you'll either adore or detest. Bertie's job is hard and there is no zapping or violence on the player's side. Skill and judgement are needed for success and the game concept is limited to the one task. **Buzz Off** is a good representative of this type of fruit game but runs the risk of repetition after a while.

Richard Price

more software on page 34

BUZZ OFF
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£4.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, Sinclair**
Gilbert Factor: **5**

A mouse with a mission

PENFOLD would certainly have approved of his rodent pal's adventures in **Dangermouse in Double Trouble,** from Creative Sparks.

It is a simple tale of terror in which the evil Baron Greenback, the turtle who is always trying to land Danger and Penfold in the soup, decides to create an Android Dangermouse. There are three episodes, reminiscent of the television series, in which you have to get the terrible twosome through to the computerised robot factory.

The first screen shows Dangermouse in his aerocar under attack from robots which must be shot by musical notes. As each is shot the score increases and the display showing you and Greenback in a tug of war changes so that you are winning the struggle. Every robot which hits you makes the turtle give an extra pull, which takes you further from your goal.

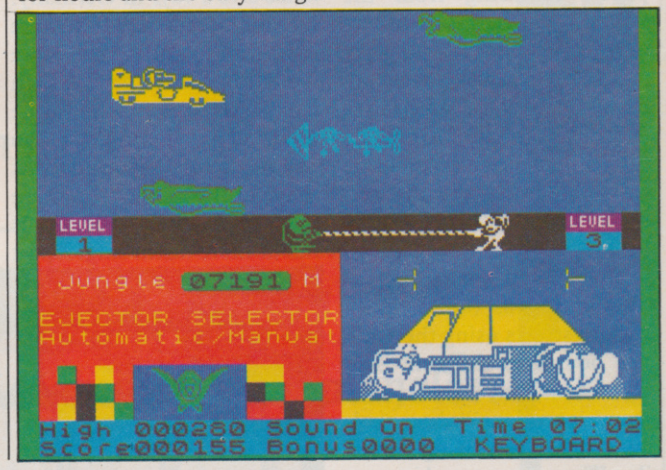
The jungle scenario of screen two, in which you have to jump on a crocodile and avoid the big cats and monkeys, leads to the final confrontation. Here Dangermouse must extinguish all the lights in the power matrix to destroy his double while avoiding Penfold who is being chased by Nero.

The game should keep any ageing youngster entertained for hours and the only danger is that the real youngsters will not get a look-in.

Dangermouse in Double Trouble would make a great Christmas present. We will certainly be asking Santa for future adventures starring the intrepid hero.

John Gilbert

DANGERMOUSE IN DOUBLE TROUBLE
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, ZX, Protek, Fuller**
Gilbert Factor: **8**



City of the undead

MOVING in the same direction as the film industry, Quicksilva has made the horror quantum leap from giant ants to zombies. Following the trail blazed by **3D Ant Attack,** the company has now released **Zombie Zombie,** using the same softsolid technique which popularised the former.

Softsolid is a means by which a true 3D perspective is built up using 'solid' cubes to form structures, behind which you or the monsters lurk. The landscape is a ruined city, many times larger than the screen, which may be viewed from any of four directions, thus enabling you to see behind the walls.

You have a small helicopter, casting the now fashionable shadow when aloft, which can pick up and redistribute the bricks of the city. That enables you to cut off or channel the zombies to a suitable killing ground.

Destroying zombies is much more difficult than killing ants. The only apparent way of doing it is to lure a zombie up a set of steps and over a precipice. You are capable of surviving the drop, but the zombie goes splat and leaves a small red puddle.

The game is less playable than 3D Ant Attack, despite the welcome provision of joystick options. Whereas the ants used to swarm in large numbers around you if you stood still, the zombies are difficult to find. That, coupled with the enormous difficulty in destroying them, makes it more fun to potter around designing buildings with the helicopter rather than get on with the game.

Chris Bourne

ZOMBIE ZOMBIE
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, Sinclair, Cursor**
Gilbert Factor: **7**

Business not pleasure

THE MOST SENSIBLE motive for buying **Hareraiser** is the sincere need to get rich.

The sole aim of the program is the discovery of a Golden Hare somewhere in the game landscape. Do not assume you are getting a fancy version of Kit Williams' *Masquerade* with complex graphics and a vast expansive plot.

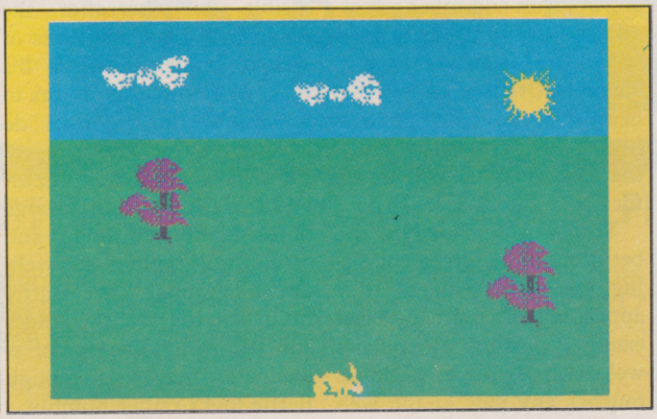
The 'game' consists of a number of lacklustre, stark and simple screens depicting the countryside, with an occasional hare bouncing around and then disappearing. At the bottom of each of those thoroughly dull pictures appears an obscure phrase which may or may not help you to find the hare — or your £30,000 in lieu.

If you decide to persist with the puzzle you will still have to buy a second program before completing it.

The casette insert provides details on how to enter. The only instructions on screen tell you to follow the hare with cursor keys. There seems to be no evidence of the richness of the original book.

Quite honestly, it is rather difficult to understand why this program was produced at all, though cynics may draw their own conclusions. Me, I'm going to zap a few aliens instead.

Richard Price



HARERAISER
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£8.95**
Gilbert Factor: **3**

Whirlybird warfare

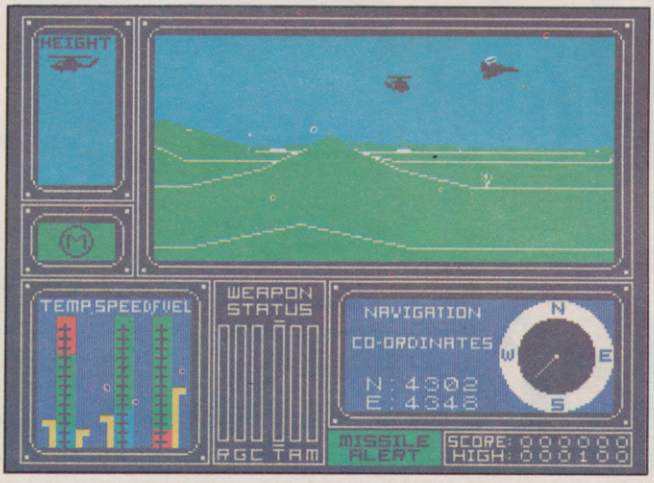
YOU MAY HAVE experienced any number of flight simulation programs in which you take a single-seater bi-plane up into the wild blue yonder. Now for something completely different.

Combat Lynx, from Durrell, is not as tame as the programs from Psion or Protek. You can hover, dip and rise in a battle-worthy helicopter, bombing the enemy aircraft gliding like sitting ducks into the range-finder and which can be despatched quickly with an air-to-air missile or rapid fire from one of your machine guns.

Despite what you might be led to believe the game is about defence and not offence. You must defend three of six ground bases, making sure that the enemy does not get to them on foot or in the air.

Once you have equipped your machine with something from the choice of missiles and guns, using the educational schematic plans of the helicopter, you can start the game and launch into a combat zone represented in 3D. The helicopter representation is only adequate but the shifting hills and dales over which it flies give the necessary realism to what is a relatively true-to-life battle simulation.

The game is too much of a simulation. Beginners will find it difficult to get anything within their sights and flying the helicopter without an enemy to hound you will prove that Combat Lynx is for the dedicated performer who likes to impress friends with displays of dexterity at the keyboard. Arcade gamers might find it tedious because of the lack of immediate excitement. If, however, you are a level-headed player who likes to take time in developing skills Combat Lynx will pay off. *John Gilbert*



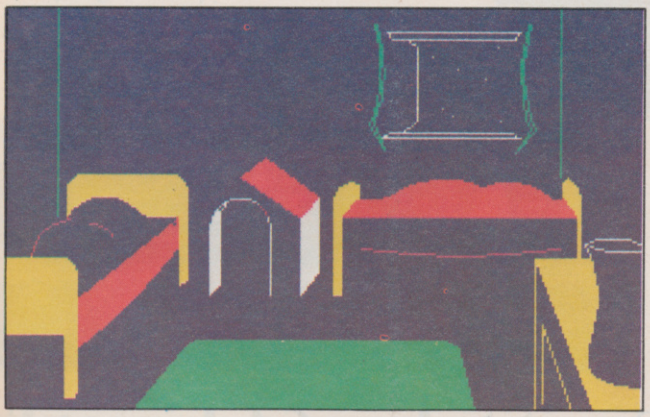
COMBAT LYNX
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£8.95**
Joystick: **Any programmable**
Gilbert Factor: **8**

Talking of Tinker Bell

BOOKWARE seems to be the up and coming style in adventure these days.

Hodder & Stoughton have entered the field with a rendering of JM Barrie's *Peter Pan,* a much loved classic. The program was written by Soft Option and is an interactive adventure with graphics. The action follows the book closely.

All the usual characters show up and you will have a tough time avoiding Hook and his villainous crew, the crocodile and the multitude of dangers in Neverland. Descriptions are full and the atmosphere is improved by the finely drawn graphic screens. Those are animated in the sense that some motion will be included in the picture. The children are shown flying across the sky, shark fins cut the water in the bay and puffs of smoke will rise from the chimney on the little house. The graphics are very attractive but do take a little time to draw. If you are impatient the pictures can be turned off.



Peter Pan has most of the standard adventure features though it is not too good at understanding abbreviations. The characters move quickly around the landscape and it can be quite an effort to keep up with some of them. The intrepreter is not as obviously sophisticated as The Hobbit's.

Nevertheless, the game is well produced and should have a strong appeal to fans of the boy wonder and his band of lost adventurers. It is also nice to know that Barrie's royalties will be passed onto Great Ormond Street children's hospital. Peter Pan should make a good Christmas present. *Richard Price*

PETER PAN
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£9.95**
Gilbert Factor: **6**

Test for motorists

STOP. Taking your driving test? Now there is a program to test your ability and help you learn.

Highway Code is made up of five sections each containing approximately 30 questions on motorways, signs giving positive orders, warning signs, general signs and negative order signs. Each question has multi-choice answers some of which are very amusing, together with clear colour graphics of the road signs.

To gain access to each set of headings you must keep reloading the tape and stopping. Unfortunately, the program can be unfriendly at times as it does not always instruct you where to stop.

The second side of the tape contains a demonstration with questions on the traffic light sequence and a demonstration only of the procedure at a level crossing.

Highway Code is produced by Learning Systems to 'complement the HMSO booklet *The Highway Code',* and I suggest you treat it as such. The tape is instructive for experienced drivers and learners alike, but it is not as comprehensive a guide to the highway code as the HMSO version. *Colette McDermott*

more software on page 38

Highway Code
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Gilbert Factor: **6**

3 printers,

A range of daisy wheel and dot matrix printers.

cassette unit,

For program storage and retrieval. For faster stora

and

monitor,

Gives really superb reproduction and clarity.

joysti

They put the cont

of ga

a vast range of softw

There's something for everyone and for all interests... thought-provoking, amusing, entertainin

chal

home,

leisure and practical interests...

educ

pre-school and beyo

crea

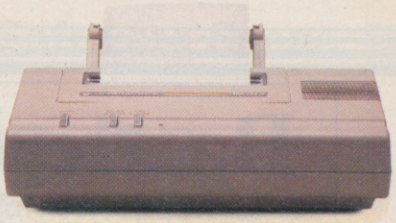
and a 64K

Plus excellent sprite graphics a

ama

About the only thing the Commodore 64 doesn't havis

printer plotter,

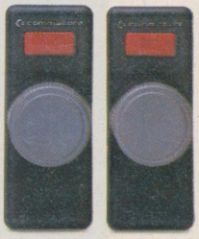


Plots graphs, draws bar and pie charts. Prints in four colours.

single disk drive,

and retrieval of programs. Uses 5¼" diskettes, and has a very large 170K memory.

tick, paddles,



of games directly into your hands... they also improve both speed and accuracy.

ftware (business,

challenging, and exciting.

To cover the essential office and business needs...

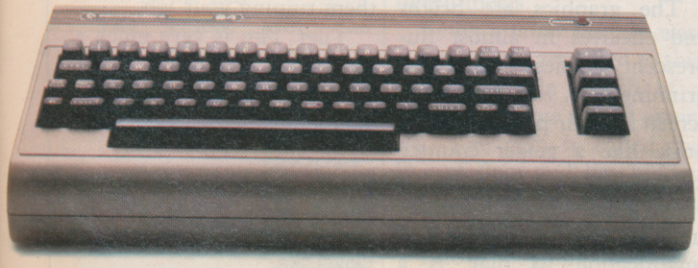
ucational, games)

created with the help and advice of specialists.

From shoot 'em up to strategy.

k memory.

amazing music synthesis capabilities.



ave is any serious competition.

THE COMMODORE 64 COSTS JUST £229 (OR LESS).
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE TICK ONE, OR MORE, OF THE BOXES AND SEND TO: COMMODORE INFORMATION CENTRE, 1 HUNTERS ROAD, WELDON, CORBY, NORTHAMPTON NN17 1QX. TEL: CORBY (0536) 205252.

COMMODORE 64 ☐	MONITOR ☐	CASSETTE UNIT ☐
PRINTERS, PRINTER PLOTTER ☐	DISK DRIVE ☐	SOFTWARE ☐

NAME

ADDRESS

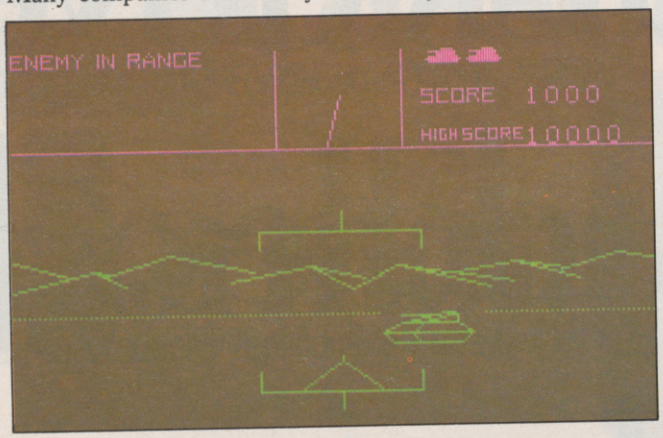
64 SUS 1284

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, MANUFACTURERS OF COMPUTER BUSINESS SYSTEMS, COMMODORE BUSINESS MACHINES (UK) LIMITED, CORBY

commodore

Battle of the tanks

IT WOULD have been better if Atari had not given its permission to Quicksilva to produce **Battle Zone** as the game is no better than the original arcade version. Many companies at least try to add a new element to such games or put something extra into the graphics.



If by now you have not heard of the game the object is to move your tank around a landscape in which other tanks, space craft and flying saucers are on the prowl.

The bare instructions, found in the game and not on the cassette insert, tell you to hide behind objects which are littered around so that the enemy cannot see you before you make your move. The movement of your tank is difficult to master as the tank is on tracks. If you press the lefthand side of the keyboard the left track moves forward, shifting the tank right, and if you push the righthand keys the tank moves left. Time to reach for the Kempston joystick.

Forward movement shows the clumsiness of the 3D graphics which are inferior to the original. Outlines crack up, objects jerk when they move and missiles on target do not always score a hit.

While no better than Battlezone the Real Time Software **3D Tank Duel** does have a coloured landscape, the former being only green and black. The standard of graphics is slightly better than the Quicksilva version and the action is smoother but the tanks, spaceships and flying saucers move faster than your gun sights which will cause a problem if you are lucky enough not to have played the game before.

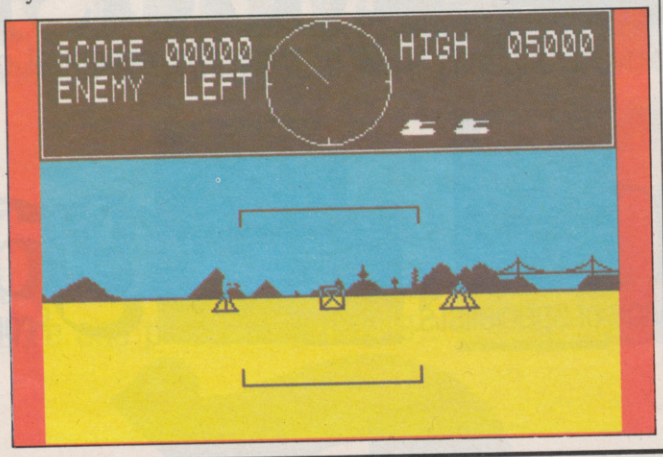
The instructions and key layout are better than the Quicksilva version so at least you can use the cassette insert if you need reminding about controls during play.

Neither of these games have much to recommend them except that you do not have to pay 50 pence a time to play in an arcade. If you are after classic original arcade simulations then both games are good buys. If you want excitement from your computer then just pass them by.

John Gilbert

BATTLE ZONE
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Joystick: **Kempston**
Gilbert Factor: **5**

3D TANK DUEL
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£5.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, Sinclair, Cursor**
Gilbert Factor: **6**



Have Tardis will travel

KNOCK, KNOCK, Who's here. The Doctor's back, in search of **The Key to Time.**

This new text adventure from Lumpsoft features the veteran time traveller and many of his oldest enemies, battling it out through time and space. Davros, Daleks, Cybermen and fellow timelords all show up as you steer your Tardis through the ages.

With the aid of a timescanner you must discover the scattered pieces of the great key and presumably save the universe into the bargain. Before you can begin the quest you will have to learn how to operate the Tardis.

Addicts of the TV series will find themselves in a well-known environment but the program is very friendly and will give considerable help to those who are less familiar with the bumbling doctor.

The program is responsive and versatile whilst the riddles are by no means obvious. It will get you zipping back and forth through time like nobody's business.

The Key to Time is good-humoured, well written and a joy to play.

Richard Price

THE KEY TO TIME
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£5.95**
Gilbert Factor: **7**

Credit for simplicity

FUNNY isn't it? Sometimes the games with the most simple of concepts can give just as much pleasure as programs of great complexity.

Tiler Tim by Microwish asks you only to move a grinning face across a grid pattern on the screen, avoid a deadly spider who dogs your tracks and occasionally stop another ghost-like character from undoing your good work of turning each small square into a different colour.

It is a cross between a painting game and Pacman, though there aren't any gobblers or killer ghosts. You move up a level after all the small squares have been changed and the action is progressively more difficult.

The graphics are bright and cheerful in almost fluorescent shades. Tim, the grinning face, zips across the screen at a fair pace making a noise like a geiger counter gone bananas.

No great strategic skills are necessary as the only real qualification to play is a quick eye and an even quicker hand. At first the spider seems sluggish but soon becomes a real hazard. Just as you think you have finished a screen the ghosts appear and you must stop them ruining your job.

Tiler Tim is very much a high-score merchant's game, deceptively easy and quite compelling. *Richard Price*

TILER TIM
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£5.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, cursor, joysticks.**
Gilbert Factor: **6**

Making the best of a bad night

YOU ARE a Wally, trapped in a nightmare in which familiar objects turn on you as you desperately try to escape from the manic dreamscape. All you have to do to wake up is find the alarm clock.

According to **Pyjamarama,** an hilarious arcade adventure with stunning sprite graphics, a Wally's idea of a nightmare means being hit by roast chickens, bowled over by spinning dinner plates, attacked by an astral machete, or buzzed by revolving saws. After all, that is what makes a Wally.

In order to reach the alarm clock you have to travel through rooms in which your wildest fantasies are acted out. The ceiling in one room is made up of a gigantic space invader game in which you must blast the invading aliens.

On your travels you must take time to pick up objects which may or may not be useful in the completion of your quest.

A variety of objects dog your movement but the secret passages, found on the ground floor within barrels, should speed you on your way. Bouncing upstairs and sliding down the bannisters will also bring the object of your quest nearer.

Once you have dodged the chicken bombardment, the flying scissors and the falling books you are beset by ghosts in the cellar. Some of the objects are not so familiar — not even Wally could expect a magnet under the table or a rocket in the hall.

The action, plot and graphics of Pyjamarama from MikroGen are great. This Wally is a winner.

John Gilbert

PYJAMARAMA
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Gilbert Factor: **8**

Wizard shenanigans

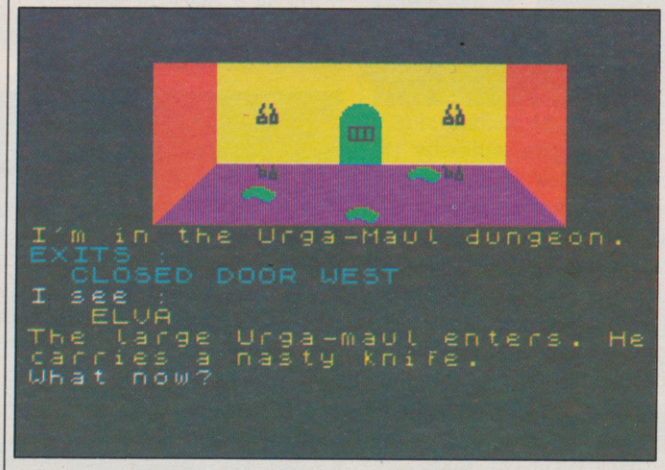
MOST adventurers will find themselves at home in the world of **Kentilla** a new mixed text and graphics game from Micromega.

Caraland is a place of magic, strange beings and heroes. A vile wizard, Grako by name, rules from his dark tower and spreads evil and destruction abroad. He possesses a moonstone, the source of his power and unless he can be defeated he will become undisputed ruler of Caraland.

Your role is, naturally, that of the budding hero and you must explore the scorched wastelands, caves and forests to find the means to defeat Grako. Urga-mauls, the local orc equivalents, will treat you with scorn and violence and you may be able to get help from Elva, a creature or person who will follow you rather like Thorin does in **The Hobbit.**

The overall plot is familiar and takes bits and pieces from many adventure sources. Indeed, Velnor himself — remember Velnor? — gets a mention in the credits.

The insert tells you straight away that the game is devious and gives little clues as to how best to progress in Caraland. The game is described as interactive and the varied beings will react to you in quite understandable ways. The amiable cavezats — rather ponderous cavern dwellers — will treat you amiably until you attack and will then go all out to slay you.



Speaking to characters may get results but they do not appear to be overly responsive. The graphics are clear and colourful and almost instantaneous, whilst the interpreter will accept a wide range of input.

There are a number of useful features — such as recall of the last command — and the cursor can be moved through an entry enabling swift correction. Despite those features the game seems slow moving and it is all too easy to spend time getting hardly anywhere at all. That is an obvious disadvantage and may well mean the program is just too devious for the average adventurer. Time will tell.

Richard Price

KENTILLA
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Gilbert Factor: **6**

Now get out of that

RIGHT FROM the beginning you realise you are up against it in **Eye of Bain,** the new Artic text adventure. There you are, tied to a pole in some stinking hovel, praying to every god you have ever heard of in the hope you will escape before the natives decide to have a snack between meals.

Being a fairly mighty warrior you have travelled to this awful place in search of a fabulously huge sacred emerald. The gem is called the Eye of Bain and lies hidden in the temple, somewhere near that loathsome village.

Life is not going to be easy. Once you have escaped you will have to avoid endless perils and solve numerous tricky puzzles to reach the holy precincts. Crooked pirates, nasty nomads and killer bees are merely a few of the problems you will encounter — and have you ever tried to persuade an ape to give you a spot of help?

The adventure follows the usual Artic format though if you 'Look' you will be shown a picture of your location. That is a sensible approach to graphics as no time need be wasted unless you feel like it.

Input is in the standard verb/noun combination but multiple entries can be made by putting a full stop between each instruction. That can save time but the interpreter responds very quickly anyway.

Artic seems to adopt a no-frills approach to their adventures. You may not get animated graphics or the chance to enter full sentences but you can be fairly sure of facing constant challenges and original problems. Eye of Bain continues this tradition and should provide many hours of solid entertainment. Great value.

Richard Price

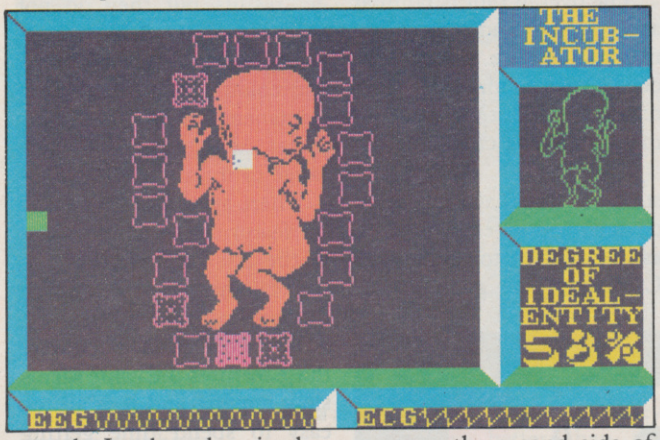
EYE OF BAIN
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Gilbert Factor: **7**

more software on page 40

Automata's origin of the faeces

PLAYING THE part of a mouse dropping may not be everybody's idea of fun or even good taste but you will soon forget that representation when you start to play the new Automata masterpiece, **Deus Ex Machina.**

The plot seems simple enough. It takes place in the future and a large computer rules the political roost. The last mouse crawls to its extinction within the machine and as the nerve gas kills it the ultimate mouse dropping is released by the rodent.



That is taken into the machine and the game, which takes up two sides of a cassette tape and an audio soundtrack, starts in which you must create a lifeform within the machine. You can take that lifeform, if it survives, from birth through middle age to old age, playing a series of weird games. Those make more sense when you listen to the soundtrack and realise that author Mel Croucher is trying to put a series of complex political, philosophical and theological points across.

The scenario is created, almost psychedelically, within the mind of the player with a background coloured by shades of Orwell's *1984*. When you have been born you are tested by the Defect Police who want to know everything about you. They probe you with their emotionless eyes, blinking out of the darkness and trying to discover the secret of your body and what lies within.

The game even depicts the life form's first sexual encounter, frightening and automated. The emotions evoked are standard and, of course, part of the system.

As old age creeps into the game, on the second side of the tape, you suddenly discover that it is not just the forces of government which are attacking you. Your body rebels as it grows old, and towards the end of the game you will have to fight blood clots and red cell destruction from within. Even that system which you trust all your life lets you down in the end.

Mel Croucher does however, give you some hope as your body dies. The final image is of a spinning embryo, one of the first images of the game. The circle is complete and even an accident rarely disrupts the system.

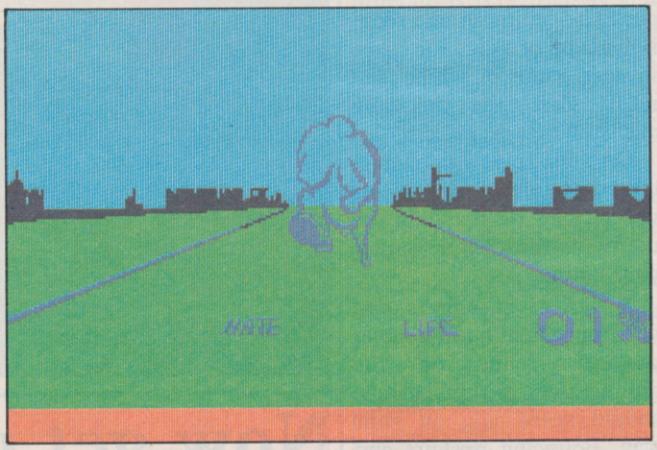
The game and its soundtrack, featuring the talents of John Pertwee, Ian Dury, Donna Bailey, Frankie Howard, E P Thompson and Mel Croucher, is a revolution in gaming technology. It has its genesis in the concept record album of the late 1960s and 1970s.

Croucher has cleverly manipulated the elements of computer gaming and brought in concepts usually found only in movies. The result is a piece of software which even those people who usually find games boring and computers even more so, will enjoy and play time and again. That is not to say, however, that the program is only for those who enjoy deep thought. Automata would have been foolish not to include classic elements of the arcade within its novel conceptual twists.

In the final analysis Deus Ex Machina is a game to be played first and talked about later. So, go ahead and do it. We won't look but we will guarantee — well, almost — that you will be intrigued.

John Gilbert

DEUS EX MACHINA
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£15.00**
Joystick: **Kempston, ZX**
Gilbert Factor: **9**



Blazing saddles . . .

WHEN YOU saddle up to play **Stagecoach** from Creative Sparks make darn sure that you put a lot of cotton wool in your strides or you will end up pretty sore in the nether regions — well, the cowboy on screen will anyway.

The game is an attractively animated Western split into three main sections. The jump comes first. There you are moseying over the desert when suddenly the stage appears. It is driverless, swaying and jolting all over the place.

The idea is to steer your cowboy up to the stage and get him onto the coach roof. Dead easy you may say, but unfortunately the desert is filled with large cacti and bits of junk. Collide with these and you will be thrown off your mount. You will have to remount and set off after the stage again, wasting precious time in collecting the horse.

If you finally get on the stage you take the reins and guide it through the obstacle course of the mountains. On the way passengers must be picked up along with boxes of gold. Then come the Indians, whooping around the coach and threatening to take your passengers. Standing on the roof your cowboy can shoot them down . . . leaving the stage driverless again and prone to further collisions.

The graphics are excellent. The cartoon effect is very well done with bright colours and fairly smooth action. There are a number of different tasks, each needing skill and practice. Stagecoach is an exciting game, full of incident and variety. *Richard Price*

STAGECOACH
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, Sinclair, Fuller, AGF/Protek**
Gilbert Factor: **7**

continued on page 42

The Unsurpassable Experience.

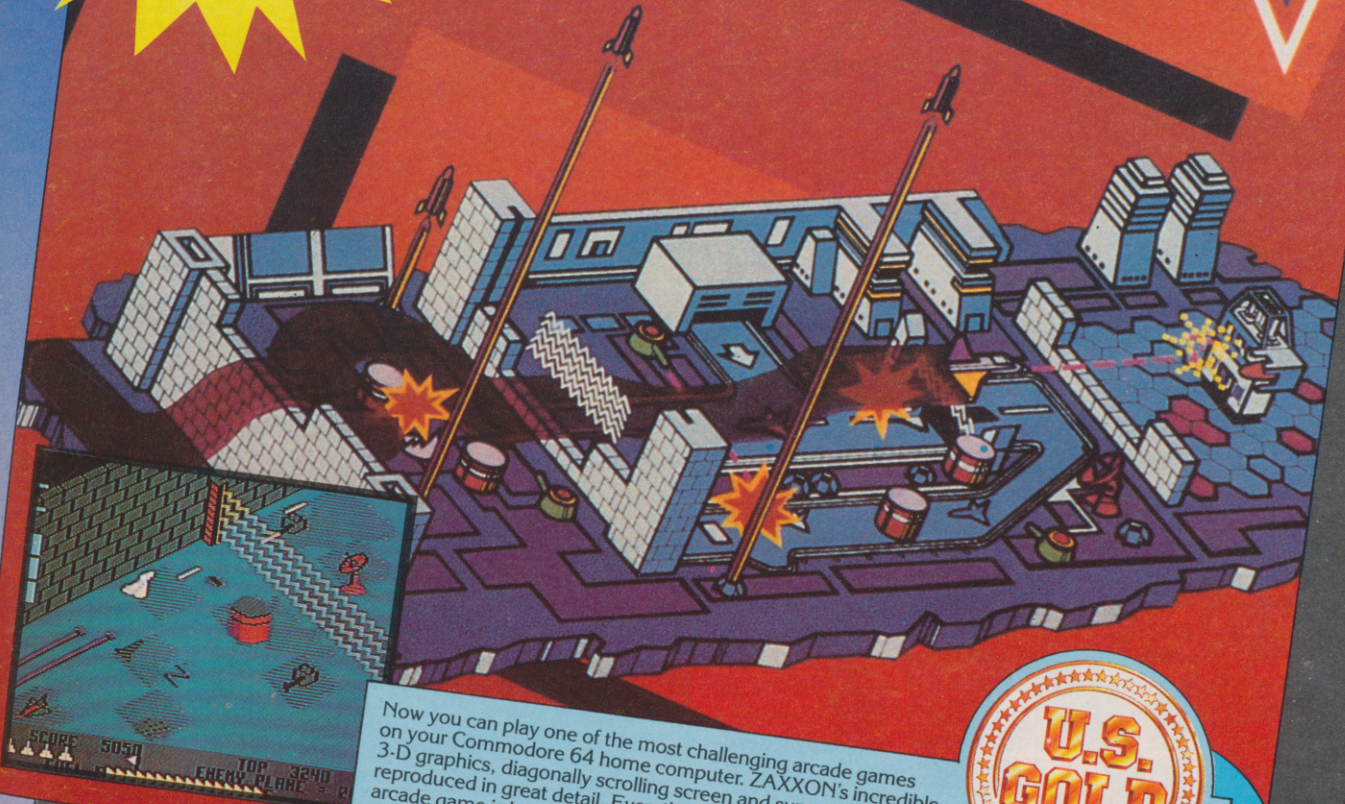
synsoft

The Official

SEGA

ZAXXON

AVAILABLE SOON FOR 48k SPECTRUM £7.95



commodore 64

Now you can play one of the most challenging arcade games on your Commodore 64 home computer. ZAXXON's incredible 3-D graphics, diagonally scrolling screen and supersound are reproduced in great detail. Everything you love about the arcade game is here – and much more. ZAXXON is now more difficult than ever before! So hang onto your joystick and keep firing. Then practice. You may eventually encounter the deadly ZAXXON himself.

U.S. GOLD
At American Software

synsoft

THE ULTIMATE IN AMERICAN SOFTWARE FOR YOU ON U.S. GOLD

U.S. Gold is stocked by all leading computer stores including:

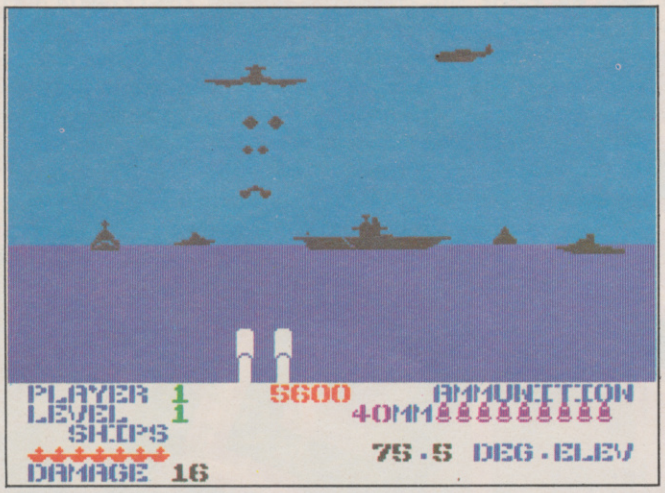
Boots John Menzies WHSMITH WILDINGS WOOLWORTH

CentreSoft Ltd., Unit 10, The Parkway Industrial Centre, Heneage Street, Birmingham B7 4LY. Telephone: 021-359 3020. Telex: 337268.

CASSETTE £9.95

DISK £14.95

Death on the beach



A CALL TO General Quarters and a beach head invasion are the stuff of which generals are made but **Beach-Head,** a typical American import from US Gold, gives you the opportunity to fight the war single handed.

You guide your fleet around an aerial reconnaissance map making sure that you locate the enemy before they find you. Encounters at sea are shown in 3D with your ship's gun turrets at the bottom of the screen, firing salvos at the aircraft which fly in low releasing their bombs in suicidal strafing runs.

Once you have found the enemy base, hidden in a secret passage, and avoided torpedoes, rocks and mines, you can have a go at wreaking your revenge on the enemy.

The graphics used in the beach scenes and at sea are best experienced at least four feet from the computer where they appear to be realistic. Do not let that put you off what is an excellent game of arcade skill and strategy. It looks as if US Gold is intent on bringing the best of the US software to Britain. If this, its first conversion to the Spectrum, is anything to go by the American products should be well received.

John Gilbert

BEACH HEAD
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£7.95**
Joystick: **ZX, Protek, Kempston**
Gilbert Factor: **8**

Hawk swoops in for the kill

BLACK HAWK is one of the world's most sophisticated aircraft, jam-packed with missiles, cannons and similar deadly weapons. Jump in the cockpit, take off and head towards the enemy coast. Your mission — yes, you have guessed it — is to blow up everything you can as effectively as possible. After you have done that you also have to get away in one piece.

There are two playing screens. The first is a long range missile-firing screen. As the ground moves below, various enemy installations and war-machines appear. Those are two-dimensional and scroll down the screen in a map-like fashion. The ultimate aim is to find and destroy the enemy airbase. Once fired, missiles can be guided to the target with your joystick or control keys. Getting the hang of that will take some practice.

The second screen is for defending the plane against hostiles who manage to get through your missile screen undamaged.

Most dangerous of all are the SAM missiles which seem to get faster and faster as you progress up the score table. Extra weapon-systems are fitted to the Hawk if you score certain percentages of target hits. More and more targets and threats will also appear. There are two playing modes — tough and tougher.

Creative Sparks has produced a shoot-em-up of some complexity and the action is furious. The missile firing sight can get confusing at times and is barely visible over water. Controls are as fast as your reactions.

It is not a simulation, it will not stretch your intellect but it is difficult and demanding.

Richard Price

BLACK HAWK
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, Sinclair, Fuller, AGF/Protek**
Gilbert Factor: **7**

Prehistoric piffle

BULGING MUSCLES and a pair of wings makes **Kokotoni Wilf** one of the most unlikely heroes to fly into a game since the first space invader hatched from its egg above an earth base.

His mission, to find the lost pieces of an arcane amulet for the wizard Ulrich, is a serious affair in which he could be licked to death by a tricerotops, zapped by a deadly egg or dropped on by a bat.

All those fates await the intrepid hero as he wings his way through several time zones and six lives in search of the fabled Dragon Amulet.

The graphics are as primitive as the dinosaurs which inhabit the upper levels of the game but the search, which can be compared with the search for drinking goblets in **Jet Set Willy,** is fun. Skill and cunning is required on the lower levels when Wilf encounters prehistoric alligators, swims through underground tunnels and gets hit by nocturnal seagulls.

Not having anything to fire at the monsters may put you off but for those who like to plan strategic play, and find a quiet corner of the screen, the game is excellent value.

John Gilbert

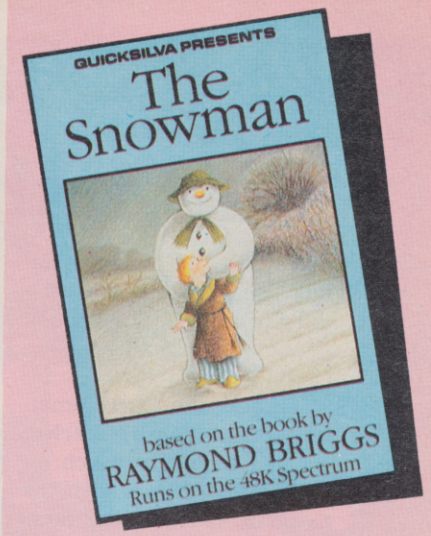
KOKOTONI WILF
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£5.95**
Gilbert Factor: **6**

more software on page 44

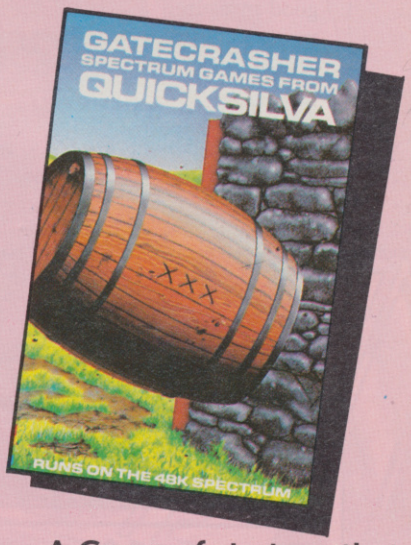
BATTLEZONE

The Official Atari approved version of the popular ATARI arcade game.

48K Spectrum
£6.95



An enchanting Christmas game based on RAYMOND BRIGGS' best selling book and film.



A Game of strategy that will test your mind to its limits.

A fantastic fight to the death within your own bloodstream!

Blood & Guts

Strontium the DOG Killing

A battle to the end with the deadliest killers in the Galaxy!

available from

QUICKSILVA

Quicksilva Mail Order, P.O. Box 6, Wimborne, Dorset BA21 7PY.
Tel. (0202) 891744

48K Spectrum £6.95 each

Rubbishy refugees

ASTROPLANER, from Romik, might come as something of a shock, if your copy is packaged like the one recieved at *Sinclair User.*

The cassette insert promises a game called **Beatcha,** about a school in which all the pupils must avoid the teachers. On loading, however, the program turns out to be a shoddy version of **Defender** which, to add insult to injury is mostly written in Basic with a few bytes of machine code added for good measure.

Why anyone would want to bring out yet another version of the traditional game is beyond reason. There are already many versions around for the Spectrum and to release yet another the manufacturer must either think it has exceptional graphics or that it contains a feature not included in other versions.

Unfortunately that is not the case it is a slow version of the standard 'stop the aliens dropping the refugees' story. The hilly terrain and spacecraft stand out on a violent green screen which plays tricks on the eyes, making the game difficult to play. The aliens look as if they have been imported from the Imagine **Arcadia.**

The keys are difficult to use because, with the copy we recieved, the main instructions about control of the spacecraft were given in the program. There are two keys which start the game. If the wrong key is pressed the player will not only not know what the game is about but will also have to press nearly every key to find the control and fire buttons.

The aliens against which the player has to pit wits belong in a school for the backwardly bug-eyed. You will get more action from a Venus flytrap.

Astroplaner is a definite disaster, a game to steer clear of unless you are making a collection of turkeys.

John Gilbert

ASTROPLANER
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£5.95**
Gilbert Factor: **2**

Bandits by moonlight

BY THE LIGHT of the bombers' moon a Lancaster weaves its way into enemy territory. Strapped in, shivering in the cold of high altitude, you clear the breeches of your machine guns and watch the night sky in apprehension. Barrage balloons drift across occasionally but suddenly the speck you thought was a star grows into the shape of a twin engined night-fighter. Here they come. Jinking and banking the fighters swarm up, guns twinkling in the darkness.

Night Gunner from Digital Integration is a multi-task arcade scenario casting you in the role of the turret gunner of the Lancaster. The main screen features the night-fighter attack. Against the starry background the enemy planes zoom closer and, by using deflection shooting, you must knock them out before they cause serious damage to the bomber.

Pilot reports and damage status are shown beneath the screen and there are three bombers available. After surviving the fighters you progress to a ground attack screen in which you must either bomb various targets from above or dive the plane to take out enemy tanks with rockets. Flak or searchlights will hinder you.

During dive-bombing you need to watch the altimeter carefully as it is easy to crash into the ground. Once that is finished you make the return journey to base, again fighting off savage attacks. Dificulty is progressive and there are thirty missions all told.

The night fighter graphics are quite impressive and are fast, smooth and distinct. There is a good feel of a dogfight though the balloons sometimes seem a little out of place as they swerve across the sky. The other screens are not as accomplished but remain exciting and taxing. The overall style has similarities with **Zzoom,** making this shoot-em-up a compulsive and demanding program.

Richard Price

NIGHT GUNNER
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Joystick: **Kempston, AGF, Protek, Sinclair**
Gilbert Factor: **6**

A dream come true in NW3

HAMPSTEAD is, well, Afghans and jogging and all sorts of things. And Hampstead Man is, well, Jeremy — off to the city, playing squash, and taking Annabel and Toby out for a crêpe.

If you have ever wondered how Hampstead Man got there, you should try some software written by and for social climbers. Hampstead is not, after all, just a place — it's a way of life. And believe it or not, Hampstead Man may come from the humblest of origins.

To get to Hampstead with nothing but a UB40 and a tracksuit you have to know the form — what to wear, what to say, which newspaper, which muesli — and you may have to lie, cheat and steal to get there.

Collect the Wykehamist tie, passport to clubland and merchant banking and extract Art from an industrial labyrinth. Head off for Cambridge and Richmond — but be careful. Seek out Pippa, and then get round her father. Only when you have done all that are you ready for Hampstead.

Hampstead is a text-only adventure, written on the Quill. Using an all-purpose program limits the scope of the game, and Melbourne House, which produced **The Hobbit,** could have done better. A more serious irritation is a racist bias. Was it really necessary to have a grinning Pakistani in a north London Post Office, a 'foreign' voice on the station tannoy and middle eastern races selling hamburgers?

Despite its flaws you are sure to find Hampstead an entertaining romp up the social ladder.

Joanna Pegum

HAMPSTEAD
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£9.95**
Gilbert Factor: **8**

more software on page 46

BREAK THE SPECTRUM SOUNDBARRIER

Any micro computer is capable of manufacturing sound, however, to produce software capable of performing just the one task would be difficult.

The production of sound effects without the constant attention of the processor is now possible thanks to the "AY" sound chip. It is now used by computer manufacturers and incorporated in most arcade games. This gives you some idea of its power and flexibility. It is used in a wide range of applications including music synthesis and sound effect generators. The interface also includes a beep amplifier to enhance the spectrum beep output.

Included with your "AY" is a free music designer cassette.

When loaded this software displays a screen showing all its functions. Joystick or keyboard control enables you to move the cursor along the keyboard selecting the desired notes by simply pressing the fire key/button.

You can vary the tempo/volume and when "played" the notes simultaneously scroll across the screen.

You can record and save up to three different tunes and amend each one as necessary.

Your program will never sound the same again!

At only **£29.95** plus £1.25 post and packing it represents remarkable value for money.

Send S.A.E. for full details/instruction book.

SPECTRUM + COMPATIBLE

dKTronics Ltd., Saffron Walden, Essex. CB11 3AQ.
Tel: (0799) 26350 Telex: 817812 DKTRON G

dk'tronics

The Spectrum Connection

Ket reaches its climax

PAIN AND nausea sweep over you as you wake. Your head feels as if a troll has been using it as a football. Your mouth is dry and, judging by the darkness, your eyes are not doing too well either.

Slowly your vision returns and you make out a dim light. The stones beneath you are damp and cold and you finally realise that you are locked in a cell. Take a look round — there is only a chair. This is Vran Verusbel's dungeon and you are in it — right up to the neck.

So begins **The Final Mission,** last in the Ket Trilogy from Incentive. After a blow on the head at the end of the previous adventure our reluctant hero finds himself in a tight spot and must now escape to seek out and destroy Vran the vile necromancer.

The format remains pure text. Locations are boxed at the top of the screen and the score is displayed above the description — a useful idea as you will immediately notice if you perform some significant action. As ever, the interpreter is friendly and responds with variety and occasional flashes of humour.

Edgar, the assassin bug strapped to your neck, has become quite taciturn and is very sparing with help. When his tongue is loosed he will provide the occasional clue. Most of the time you are on your own in Vran's gloomy halls and subterranean passages. You will hear the patter of tiny feet and the crunch of giant ones behind you.

The problems are well up to standard, there is also the pull of the concluding portion of the prize winning sentence.

The Final Mission looks to be a fitting finale to the quest.

Richard Price

THE FINAL MISSION
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£5.50**
Gilbert Factor: **7**

Inscrutable plates

THROWING PLATES into the air and balancing them on poles might not be your idea of fun but obviously somebody at Ocean Software thinks that a **Chinese Juggler** makes a smashing game.

Your performer must take the plates from the piles set at the front of the stage and toss them into the air until they are the correct colour to go onto one of the poles.

Once you achieve the correct coloured plate you can spin it on one of the poles and return for another. That continues, together with odd intervals where you must respin plates which are threatening to fall, until all of the poles have been used.

After initial interest wanes the game becomes slightly boring and then excruciatingly so. Each level is easy and once you have been past the eighth or ninth level there is not much left to do.

The game has proved popular for the Commodore 64 which probably confirms what you have always suspected of Commodore users.

John Gilbert

CHINESE JUGGLER
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.90**
Gilbert Factor: **5**

Bikers bore in creepy castle

BMXers beware. Somewhere out there is a castle full of ghosts and treasure ready to take you into its dreadful maw. **Ghost Rider** from Positive Image features an intrepid bike rider competing in such a spectral motocross.

The game uses the platform format with the castle rooms split into six levels. The rider is shown as a silhouette figure pedalling away for dear life around the haunted pile.

Access to each level is by unpredictable elevators which must be ridden onto with some precision. Getting off the lifts is equally dangerous as there is only just enough space between roof and ceiling for the rider to fit.

Treasures such as crowns and golden cups are lying around on the platforms and all must be collected before you can go onto the next screen.

There are twelve screens each of increasing difficulty. The floors are patrolled by an assortment of ghosts and monsters all of which will kill our biker instantly if he makes a false move. The hazards are much the same on each screen though the structure of the platforms gets more fragmented.

On first sight the program seems relatively simple but in fact you must take great care to collect treasures in the correct order, or you will run out of fuel and be unable to reach the refuelling point in time. The golden cups are only accessible after the other minor items have been picked up and are often placed behind brick walls which create further obstacles.

Though the game is difficult and nerve-racking at times the graphics are rather bleak and flickery. The use of a white background results in a fair amount of glare and can be tiring after a while. The rather unspiring presentation counts against the program. So does the fact that it is extremely temperamental about loading.

Richard Price

GHOST RIDER
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£6.95**
Gilbert Factor: **4**

No picnic for bears

THE MOST interesting thing about **Gilligan's Gold** from Ocean Software is the difference between the demonstration and what is actually possible. The game is set in a mine, and you control what looks like a pink teddy bear from marauding green bears as you collect gold.

The pink teddy in the demonstration had great fun digging out gold with a pick-axe and dashing up ladders and lifts to deposit his finds in a wheelbarrow. A favourite ruse is to drop a bag of gold down a mine shaft and onto an unsuspecting bear's head, causing him to collapse and see stars.

Sadly, our team found it near impossible to pick up the gold or pick-axe or to manoeuvre the wheelbarrow. We could not even make use of the pit bus, which would run down a bear as soon as look at one.

The speed and the attractive display show that it can be addictive.

Joanna Pegum

GILLIGAN'S GOLD
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£5.90**
Gilbert Factor: **6**

The INTERSTATE Line

TAKE YOUR GAMES PLAYING TO THE EDGE OF SPACE
WITH THE NEW AND UNIQUE DUO IN JOYSTICK INTERFACING

INTERSTATE 31

JOYSTICK INTERFACE

- IN-31 (Kempston Protocol) for maximum games compatibility.
- Built-In Option — Rapid/Auto Fire with any "ATARI" type Joystick.
- Reset button for re-starts without the need to pull out the power lead.

INTERSTATE PRO

PROGRAMMABLE JOYSTICK INTERFACE

- Simple to program.
- No software required.
- 1k On-board Memory.
- Up to 8 programmable positions plus fire.
- Four light emitting diodes (LEDs) to aid programming.
- Reset button for restarts without the need to pull out the power lead.
- Can be re-programmed at any time.

TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE, CLIMB ABOARD THE INTERSTATE LINE

Bud Computers
AHEAD WITH IDEAS

PLEASE RUSH ME:

☐ Interstate Pro(s) at **£22.95** ☐ Interstate 31(s) at **£11.95**
☐ Quickshot II Joystick(s) at £9-95 Total _____
I enclose Cheque/P.O. for £ _____ All prices include VAT and P. & P.
Name _____
Address _____
_____ Tel. _____
Bud Computers Ltd., **FREEPOST**, 196 Milburn Road, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 1BR.

AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD COMPUTER RETAILERS OR DIRECT FROM BUD COMPUTERS. POST FREE BOTH WAYS.

TRADE AND EXPORT ENQUIRIES WELCOME

48K SPECTRUM OWNERS
ESPECIALLY MICRODRIVE OWNERS

OCP ANNOUNCE ALL PROGRAMS COMPLETELY REWRITTEN FOR ZX MICRODRIVE COMPATIBILITY & PLUS 80's FOR USE WITH 15 DIFFERENT CENTRONICS/RS232 INTERFACES INCLUDING ZX INTERFACE 1

COMPATIBLE WITH sinclair ZX Microdrives

★ **FINANCE MANAGER** ★
★ **ADDRESS MANAGER** ★ £8.95

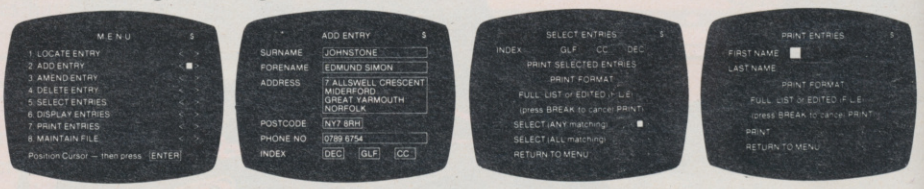
(BOTH LESS £3 REBATE FOR EXISTING USERS ON RETURN OF OLD CASSETTE)

★ ★ **80 COLUMN – 'PLUS 80' VERSIONS** ★ ★ £19.95

(LESS £5.00 REBATE FOR EXISTING USERS ON RETURN OF OLD CASSETTE)

Write to us for a quotation for the software, the interface and the latest high performance Japanese Dot Matrix Printer — you will find our prices very competitive.
Both programs are available in standard form which work only with ZX$_{TM}$ and Alphacom 32 column printers, and Plus 80 which work in conjunction with most Centronics/RS232 Interfaces and 80 column printers.

ADDRESS MANAGER and **FINANCE MANAGER** utilise the same "on the page" presentation and offer 48K Spectrum owners a professional standard address filing, indexing retrieval, and financial analysis system. Below are examples of the screen presentations.
Both have been carefully constructed to provide the user with a tool that is extremely friendly and easy to use, the speed and presentation of these programs are second to none.

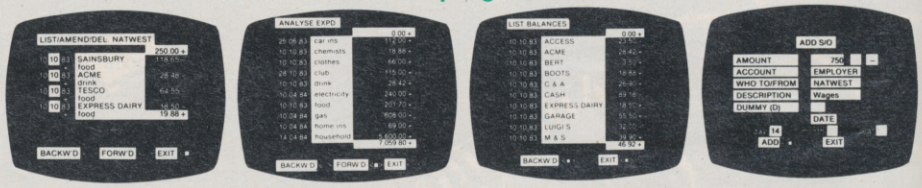


ADDRESS MANAGER features MULTIPLE INDEXING via our 3 way 3 character index, an ability to store over 400 full names and addresses or 1500 individual names/titles.
USES include storing and updating names, addresses and phone numbers, printing out Xmas card lists, etc, mail order work, customer classification by type size (doctors have used this program to catalogue patients by treatment).

FINANCE MANAGER is a powerful, flexible and fast MENU DRIVEN general purpose program carefully designed to handle up to 255 separate accounts for domestic and business accounting applications. The magic of MACHINE CODE has enabled us to produce the very latest "on the page" presentation which lets you enter and edit data naturally, as if with a pencil and paper.

Voted **"The best value financial program available"** by **Sinclair** user.

But that's not all, not by a long way. This program automatically raises a corresponding debit or credit for every entry, and will even open up a new account if an entry features an unrecorded account name.



Accounts can be **MERGED, DELETED, ANALYSED, MARKED** as priority, **RENAMED, EDITED** and **SCROLLED.** Transactions can be **RECONCILED, AMENDED, DELETED, PRINTED, DESCRIBED** for analysis and **RENAMED.** Standing orders can be **APPLIED, REMOVED, DESCRIBED, AMENDED, DELETED** and even **DUMMIED** for planning purposes. Other features include **DATE CHANGE, RUNNING TOTALS, 2 KEYBOARD MODES, PRINT PAGE/ LINE/BLOCK/FROM END/FROM START/FROM DATE etc., LIST BALANCES, FIELD ERASE/INSERT/DELETE, EXIT TO BASIC.** You may not want all these features but they are there just in case.

★ ★ ★ ★ **UTILITIES** £9.95 ★ ★ ★ ★

★ MACHINE CODE TEST TOOL ★
★ EDITOR ASSEMBLER ★
★ MASTER TOOL KIT ★

sinclair ZX MICRODRIVE COMPATIBLE

(Existing users wanting latest versions will receive a £3.00 rebate on return of old cassette)

Until stocks reach **WHSMITH** and other retail outlets send cheque or telephone details to 0753 889055.
Replacement tapes only available from OCP direct.
OXFORD COMPUTER PUBLISHING LTD., 4 High Street Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks. SL9 9QB.

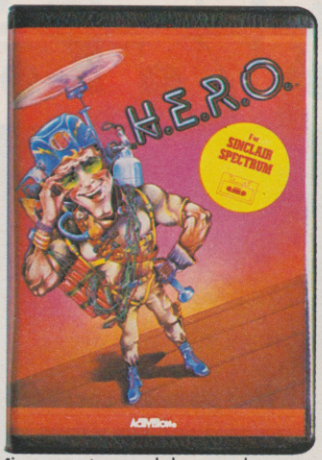
SOFTWARE ★ ★ ★ ★ SIMPLY THE BEST

SU/12/84

The Activision Eight.

Pitfall Harry has to recover the priceless Raj Diamond from the lost caverns. But there is a small matter of poisonous frogs. Albino Scorpions. Vampire Bats. Electric Eels. Need we go on?

Running on Commodore 64, MSX, and Spectrum



Miners are trapped deep underground. Threatened by molten lava, poisonous bats, snakes, spiders. You alone in the person of Roderick Hero – Helicopter Emergency Rescue Operation – can help.

Running on Commodore 64, Spectrum, MSX

And you thought it was just a movie. But Ghostbusters is a computer game, too. Following the film with incredible accuracy. Even down to the chart topping music score.

Running on Commodore 64 and Spectrum. Soon on other systems.

With the Designers Pencil, you can draw the world – and everything that's in it. Write your own melodies. Learn to write and develope your own programs. Its scope is as broad as your own mind.

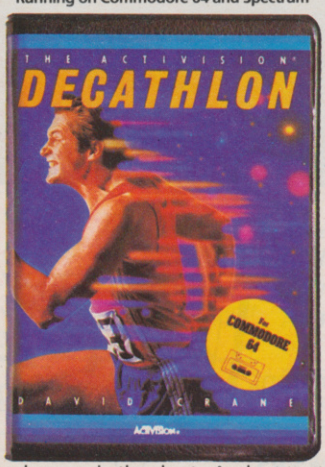
Running on Commodore 64 and Spectrum

Man's ultimate journey. You can make it, in faithful detail, from lift-off, through an outer-space rendezvous, to landing. A genuine test of your inner strength.

Available soon for Commodore 64 and Spectrum

Stay cool. Stay low. Stay alive. Your mission is to fly down the world's most heavily defended river, destroying everything the enemy hurls at you. But beware... your fuel tanks are nearly dry.

Running on Commodore 64, Spectrum, MSX



Number one in the charts. And set to stay there. Decathlon asks for total commitment. Speed. Strength. Stamina. The will to win.

Running on Commodore 64

Merton the maintenance man is set for yet another routine night in charge of the toy factory. But something has gone terribly, terribly wrong.

Running on Commodore 64. Soon on Spectrum

Eight very different titles with one thing in common.

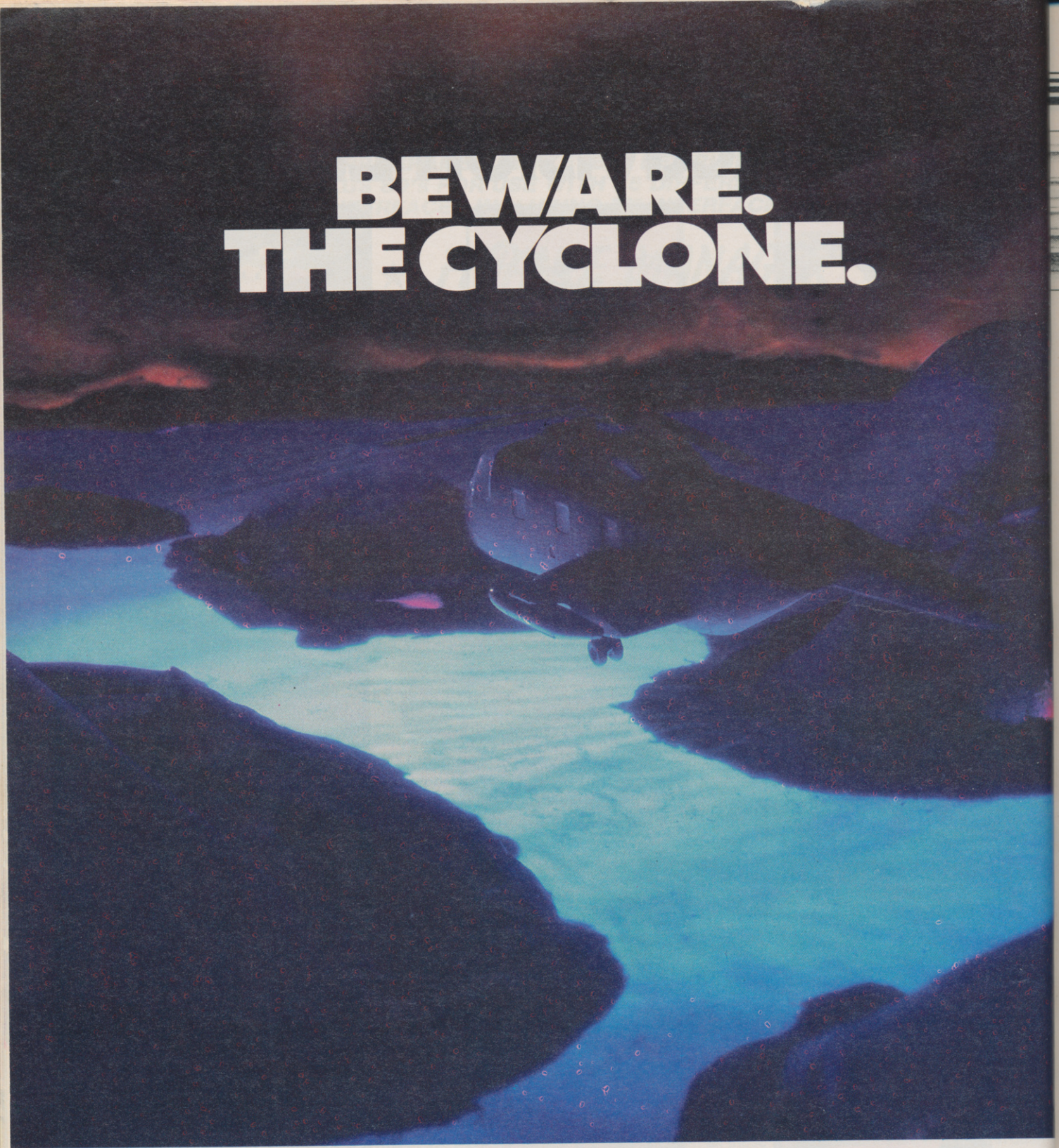
The Activision touch of gold.

For more details contact Activision (UK) Inc, 15, Harley House, Marylebone Road, London NW1.

ACTIVISION®

Your computer was made for us.

BEWARE. THE CYCLONE.



You've seen the havoc Tornado Low Level can create.
Now it's the turn of Cyclone. The latest action game from Vortex.
Stunning multi-view 3D graphics. Vast dynamic playing area. A new game designed to take the Spectrum world by storm.
Beware. The Cyclone...is imminent.

Vortex SOFTWARE

☐	CYCLONE	SPECTRUM 48K	£6.95
☐	T.L.L.	SPECTRUM 48K	£5.95
☐	ANDROID TWO	SPECTRUM 48K	£5.95
☐	ANDROID ONE	SPECTRUM 16K-48K	£4.95

TOTAL VALUE £

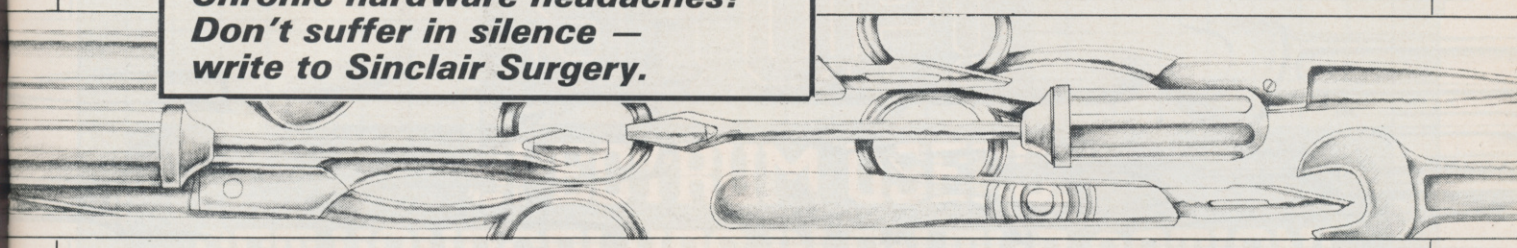
NAME BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

ADDRESS

ENCLOSE P/O CHEQUE PAYABLE TO VORTEX SOFTWARE (SALES) LTD.
SEND TO VORTEX SOFTWARE (SALES) LTD. 280 BROOKLANDS ROAD, MANCHESTER M23 9HD

· VORTEX ACTION GAMES · AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING RETAILERS ·

**Acute add-on allergy?
Chronic hardware headaches?
Don't suffer in silence —
write to Sinclair Surgery.**



Tape loading troubles

CAN YOU GIVE me some information on compatible cassette players for the Spectrum.

I have one which I bought with my Spectrum from Dixons. It is their own make and whilst I find it perfectly adequate for loading most pre-recorded tapes and my own programs, it does sometimes prove very difficult to load from certain pre-recorded tapes.

I usually have no problems with Psion tapes which will always load first time. On the inserts it says that the tapes are made to load over a wide range of tone and volume and it seems to give no problem whatsoever.

I have had the misfortune to purchase some cassettes that are very difficult to load. My latest purchase is **Full Throttle** by Micromega, and that refuses to load.

**M E Kelly,
Weston-Super-Mare,
Avon.**

● *From your letter the problem appears to be with the cassette deck. It may be simply that the head is slightly out of alignment or that it is not running at the correct speed. Take it back to Dixons, with your copy of* Full Throttle, *and explain the problem to them. They should either replace the deck or refund your money.*

Modems for amusement

I, LIKE many others using the ZX-81, am bored with its limited graphics. So I am forced to look for some other amusement, and the Prestel and Micronet systems seem the perfect solution Are there any modems available for the 81? If so do they need an RS232 interface?

**Daniel Morgan,
Billingham,
Cleveland.**

● *To run a modem from the ZX-81 you need an adapter. The Universal Modem Adapter by Comprocsys is the only one we know of which will work with the ZX-81 and give you Prestel-type graphics. It includes its own RS232 interface.*

Priced at a very reasonable £29.95, further details are available from Comprocsys, 129 Campden Road, South Croydon, Surrey.

Sizing up the sockets

I HAVE a Spectrum 48K, but as yet I have no portable cassette player to load and save programs with. I do have a tape deck — one component of a hi-fi, as opposed to a self contained tape player — but the MIC and EAR sockets on it are too large to take the leads provided with the spectrum.

**Thomas Austin,
Stowmarket, Suffolk.**

● *Your cassette deck would appear to use ¼in size sockets while the Spectrum lead uses 2.5mm plugs. Rumbelows, and possibly other electrical retailers, can supply an adapter which converts from one size to the other but you will have to experiment as to which MIC socket, left or right, will work.*

A better solution — would be to obtain the necessary plugs and sockets from a component supplier, such as Maplin, and to wire them up yourself. In that way you can ensure that the signal from the computer is recorded on both tracks, in mono, which will give a better recording.

Add-on of an antique age

AT ONE TIME there was regularly advertised a device called ZX-99, which was said to enable the ZX-81 to control a tape recorder and load sections of recorded data from a tape, at will. Its cost, if I remember rightly, was just under £50.00 but no advertisements for it have appeared since January 1983.

I wrote twice to the advertisers asking for details of the device — some sort of user's manual — but received no reply to either letter; I can only assume that they went out of business.

Can you tell me if any such device is now available for the ZX-81? The Memotech adjuncts would seem to be something like as effective — but the ZX-99 was said to allow access to even 1Mb of memory.

**L G Unstead-Joss,
Edinburgh.**

● *The ZX-99 for the ZX-81 was produced by Data-Assette, the last address we have is 44 Shroton Street, London NW1 6UB, Tel: (01)-258-0409. It was priced at £62.90 and allowed you to control up to four cassette decks, LOAD, SAVE and VERIFY programs and data and drive a RS232 printer.*

If you are still unable to contact them you could try Adams, 1 Lewin Road, London N16 7NL, who makes the RZ1 Tape controller, suitable for the ZX-81 or Spectrum, priced £25.00 which will control a tape deck, or BasiCare Microsystem Ltd, 12 Rickett Street, London SW6 which makes a paging system for both computers which allows you to access up to 1Mb of memory, and also relay controllers which can be used with cassette decks.

Joysticks for Jet Pac

I AM NEW to computers and have bought a Spectrum and Interface 2.

I have found that some of the games can be played with a joystick and Interface 2, but many, like **Jetpac,** do not work with it.

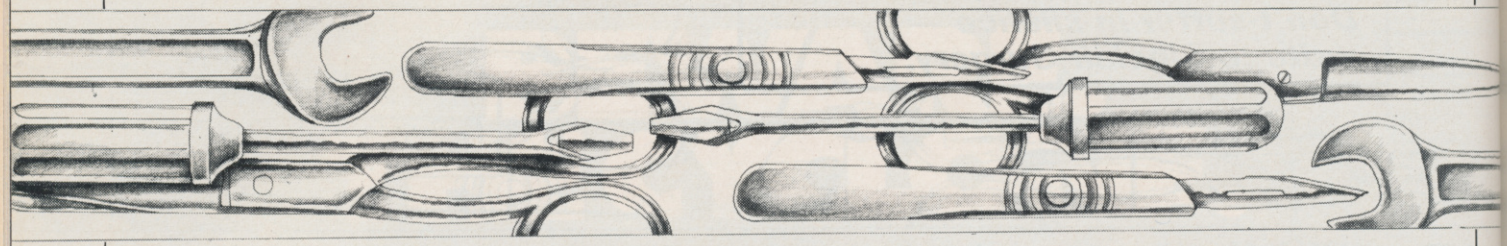
I have written to Sinclair Research about this, but they do not reply to individual queries. What I need to know is whether the Interface 2 is programmable so that a joystick can be used with games which are Kempston or cursor compatible, and if so, how is it done.

**Jeff Ashby,
South Woodham Ferrers,
Essex.**

● *Unfortunately, there are now three different standards which joysticks can use: Sinclair, cursor and Kempston. There is no easy way that a program written for one standard can be converted for use with another.*

The answer is to buy either a programmable interface, which allows you to nominate which keys you want to use, such as that from Fox Electronics, or one which can switch between standards such as those from RAM Electronics or Protek. As you already have Interface 2 then the adapter lead from Abtron, 38 Rydens Avenue, Walton-on-Thames KT12 3JP, priced £7.99, will allow you to use games which use the cursor keys.

more on page 52



Panasonic printers

I USE a Panasonic KX-P1090 matrix printer with my Spectrum and Interface 1. The printer is capable of reproducing graphics using bit image designation commands. Can you give me a substitute for the Spectrum COPY-command that transfers the screen to the printer?

Ove Enqvist,
Helsinki, Finland.

● *Interface 1 does not have any commands built in which enable you to COPY the screen via the RS232 port. The only way is to write a routine to do that for you. Without resorting to machine code the following Basic program should prove useful, it simply uses the POINT command to read the screen and then sends the information to the printer. It will work on any Epson compatible printer, such as the Panasonic KX-P1090.*

The only things to bear in mind are that POINT does not work on the bottom two lines of the screen so the routine will only COPY the top 22 lines and secondly, as Sinclair Basic is fairly slow be prepared to take a coffee break.

```
 10 FORMAT "b"; baud-rate: REM s
et to printer
 20 OPEN#3;"b": REM open binery
channel to printer-using channel
3 so you can use LPRINT
 30 LPRINT CHR$ 27;"A";CHR$ 8;:RE
M set 8/72 inch line spacing
 40 FOR y=168 TO 0 STEP -8
 50 LPRINT CHR$ 27;"K";CHR$ 0;CHR
$ 1;: REM prepare for 256 bits of
data
 60 FOR x=0 TO 255
 70 LPRINT CHR$ (POINT (x,y)+2*POI
NT (x,y+1)+4*POINT (x,y+2)+8*POIN
T (x,y+3)+16*POINT (x,y+4)+32*POI
NT (x,y+5)+64*POINT (x,y+6)+128*P
OINT (x,y+7));: REM assemble data
bit and send it
 80 NEXT x
 90 LPRINT CHR$ 13;CHR$ 10: REM s
end carriage return/line feed-adj
ust to printer
100 NEXT y
110 LPRINT CHR$ 27;"A";CHR$12: RE
M reset line spacing
```

Stonechips sob-story

AFTER spending months looking for a Stonechips programmable joystick interface, I succeeded in buying one.

I went on to tackle **Jet Pac** and eventually managed to bring the game under joystick control. That however, took over an hour of stretching fingers to press three keys and move the joystick at the same time.

I have only attempted to use the interface twice since and have now decided to get rid of it and settle for a Kempston. Please could you tell me how to do that?

Gavin Lake,
Hertford,
Hertfordshire.

● *If you are unhappy with anything you have purchased then go to the shop where you bought it and ask for your money back. Not many shops will do that without a great deal of argument.*

If possible, try the add-on in the shop before buying or read reviews of it in magazines, such as Sinclair User.

As regards selling the interface, your only hope is to try the classified pages and hope that someone who has not read your letter will buy it.

Connections made clear

WOULD someone please explain to us mortal users the pin configuration of the Sinclair Interface 1 RS 232 port.

I long to use the RS 232 port to drive my OKI Microline 82A Dot Matrix Printer, but have been unable to sort out the signals and pins from the Interface 1 unit to the standard 25 pin D type connector.

I am currently able to use the printer, but only when driven by a parallel interface. However, that does take up valuable RAM, which could be put to better use in the construction of program data.

Timothy M Gray,
Orpington,
Kent.

● *Page 49 of the Interface 1 manual shows the pin arrangement of the RS232 port. What has confused many people is that it is configured as a DCE (Data Communication Equipment) device which actually means that half the pins are the 'wrong way round'.*

Pin 2, which is marked TX data, receives the data and so should be connected to the TX data pin of the printer. Similarly Pin 3, RX data, is output and so connects to the RX data pin of the printer. The following table should make things clearer — NC means no connection.

Interface 1 Pin	Printer Pin	Function
1	—	NC
2	2	TX data-data from printer to interface
3	3	RX data-data from interface to printer
4	20	DTR-Data Terminal Ready-interface ready to receive
5	5	CTS-Clear To Send-printer ready to receive
6	—	NC
7	7	Ground-Earth
8	—	NC
9	—	NC-not required by printer

Plugging in RAM packs

I RECENTLY bought a 32K Cheetah Ram pack to increase the capacity of my 16K Spectrum to 48K.

Which joysticks are compatible with the system, and secondly, is it possible to place the 32K Ram pack "contents" within the Spectrum and then upgrade to a more professional keyboard.

E Shufflebotham,
Manchester.

● *The Cheetah RAM pack should be compatible with all joystick interfaces.*

It is theoretically possible to put the contents of the RAM pack inside the Spectrum but in practice it would prove difficult. You may find it easier to purchase a flexible connector which will overcome the problem of fitting it onto the back of a full-sized keyboard.

STOP!

SPECTRUM USERS:
GET YOURSELUES IN ON THE ACTION!

BRING YOUR MACHINE ALIVE WITH THIS EXCITING NEW BOOK FROM CORGI/ADDISON-WESLEY

The ZX Spectrum's remarkable capabilites make it the natural games playing micro. GAMES OF ACTION AND EXCITEMENT FOR YOUR ZX SPECTRUM shows you how to make the most of them.

* 20 great games including DELTA, SPACE WARS AND RIPPER
* animation, video thrills and non-stop action!

YOUR SPECTRUM WILL NEVER HAVE BEEN LIVELIER!

CORGI/ADDISON-WESLEY
TOGETHER,
THE NEW FORCE IN COMPUTER BOOK PUBLISHING

(IN BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

GAMES OF ACTION AND EXCITEMENT FOR YOUR ZX SPECTRUM is availabe at your bookshop, though should you have any difficulty in obtaining it, you can order direct from the publisher. Simply fill in the form below.

Please send me

____ copy/copies of Games of Action and Excitement for your ZX Spectrum at £4.95 each 991295

Please allow cost of book(s) plus 30p for one book plus 15p for each additional book for postage and packing.

I enclose my cheque/postal order for £_____
payable to: TRANSWORLD PUBLISHERS LTD.

Signed_____ Date_____

Name_____

Address_____

_____

_____

Now send to **CORGI/ADDISON-WESLEY BOOKS,**
61-63 Uxbridge Road, London W5 5SA

To date, Atari's most astonishing game is Pole Position... If you are only going to buy one game, then this is the one you should get.

COMPUTER & VIDEO GAMES.

...Pole Position gives a very strong sense of speed as you hurtle round the track. The super-realism of the three-dimensional effect adds a lot to the game. It is a great graphics demo.

PRACTICAL COMPUTING.

Brilliant!

WHICH MICRO? AND SOFTWARE REVIEW.

...a terrific version of the arcade motor racing game...graphics are superb...sound, too is very good as brakes screech and engines rev-up.

PERSONAL COMPUTER GAMES.

Exciting, exhilarating, excellent, Pole Position takes the lead as the best Atari race game around.

PERSONAL COMPUTER NEWS.

What can we say?

We're overwhelmed. Though we should just add that with Atarisoft, you can now play Pole Position* on the Commodore 64, BBC and Spectrum computers, as well as on all Atari® systems. And you'll also find available other games such as Galaxian,* Robotron,† Moon Patrol† and Ms Pacman.

POLE POSITION

LOOK OUT FOR OTHER LEADING COMPUTER GAMES FROM ATARISOFT. PRICES START FROM £7.99 *TRADEMARK OF NAMCO. ®TM ARE TRADEMARKS OF ATARI CORP. †TRADEMARK OF WILLIAMS.

SEE US AT ZX MICROFAIR
YOUR CHANCE TO WIN AN MO184 KEYBOARD
CONTACT US FOR DETAILS

The MO184 for SPECTRUM users

Designed by Programmers and Repair Specialists for Simplicity, Speed, Safety & Space.

KEYS:
- ★ Low-profile Keys, only 4 mm travel.
- ★ Large keycaps.
- ★ Readable at 3 feet.
- ★ Bright colours for easy identification.
- ★ Strategically placed for easy
  - extended mode
  - delete
  - → ← ↑ ↓
- ★ Extra keys for left-handed users.
- ★ Full-size space bar.
- ★ Numeric pad with decimal point.
- ★ Double width enter keys.
- ★ Quiet action on gold contact switches.

HOUSING:
- ★ Glossy wipe - easy material.
- ★ Fully insulated no mains flying around.
- ★ Generous height and depth to House Interface 1 & power supply, WITHOUT REMOVING FROM CASING.
- ★ Large slots at rear for Spectrum and Interface 1.
- ★ Palm rest, to save tired wrists.
- ★ Pen holder.

Games programmers, watch out for our New Model!

ASSEMBLY:
- ★ No soldering required.
- ★ Full instructions supplied.

FURTHER EXPANSION
- ★ 3 slot (female) connector cable @ £12.50
- ★ 2 slot (female) connector cable @ £9.00
- ★ 8" Microdrive cable @ £5.50

DEALERS, CONTACT US FOR AN OFFER YOU CAN'T RESIST!

Please send_____MO184 Professional Keyboard @ £54.95 each*
_____3 slot connector cable @ £12.50 each
_____2 slot connector cable @ £8.50 each
_____8" microdrive cable @ £5.50 each

I enclose cheque/P.O. value £_____*(add £2 p&p)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

TEL:.....POSTCODE.....

£5 OFF!! THE MO184 KEYBOARD IF YOUR ORDER IS RECEIVED ON THIS COUPON BY THE 10/JAN/85

Please send to:-

MANCOMP LTD.
FREEPOST, MANCHESTER M19 3BR. TEL: 061-224 1888

Spectrum makes music

AN UNUSUAL and costly device for the Spectrum is MIDI interface manufactured by Siel (UK) Ltd. MIDI stands for Musical Instrument Digital Interface and it is a standard format for the exchange of information between digital musical instruments, those typically being keyboard instruments such as synthesisers. The information it handles is the pitch of the note, duration of the note and dynamic information such as the speed at which the key has been pressed.

It was decided to test the Siel interface on the Siel DK600 synthesiser and the Siel Expander – although it will drive any MIDI compatible instrument — using two Siel software cassettes, the Live Sequencer and Expander Editor, both for the Spectrum.

The instructions for connecting instruments to the interface were a little confusing, and Siel would do well to give more explanation here, although its instruction manual gives the full protocol of the MIDI standard, invaluable if you want to write your own programs for it.

With the DK600 connected to the Spectrum via the MIDI interface, the Live Sequencer allows the computer to record a single polyphonic track in real time as you play it on the keyboard. It can then play it back. There is a function for varying the tempo of playback and for producing refrains by looping. When you have perfected your tune you can save it onto cassette for later use.

The second piece of software, the Expander Editor, is for the Siel Expander. The Expander is just another DK600 synthesiser but has no keyboard or controls. To set it up you can either load it from the DK600 or from the Spectrum using the Expander Editor. That gives a high resolution graphics display of the controls, and via menu and graphics options all the controls can be set from the Spectrum.

You can judge when you have set up the sound by using the pre-programmed note and chord sequences and adjusting until they are correct. It also has a HELP facility for explaining what effect the controls have on the sound. A very nice piece of software indeed.

The whole system is very impressive and of high quality and, as you may by now be thinking, it is not cheap.

The MIDI interface retails at £99.00 including the Live Sequencer. If brought separately, the latter is £22.00. The DK600 six voice polyphonic synthesiser is £999.00 and a six voice Expander is £649.00. Siel is bringing out the MK9000 keyboard instrument which will retail at £449.00. The Expander Editor costs £53.50. Siel is planning more software for the Spectrum and if you are interested in music you should look at the Siel range. In terms of technical ability and ease of use it is good and inexpensive compared to other equipment on the market.

Siel (UK) Ltd, is at Ahed Depot, Reigate Road, Hookwood, Horley, Surrey, RH6 0AY. Tel: (02934) 76153/4.

Cassette cards

SINCLAIR User is always on the look-out for new ideas and we have now found a Christmas present for the micro user who has everything. Tape Tabs are sets of ten cassette inlay cards with high quality pictures on the front.

You can choose from pictures of cowboys, motorcycles, astronauts, women's bottoms, hamburgers, modern art, *Dungeons and Dragons,* science fiction or even arcade games. There are also DIY Packs with self-adhesive fronts so you can add your own pictures.

Tape tabs are priced at 85 pence per pack. For details of availability contact Tape Tabs Ltd, 70 Orbel Street, London, SW11 3NY.

Saga keyboard care

AN ERROR in the October issue of Sinclair User gave the impression that the Emperor keyboard from Saga Systems could not easily be used with Interface 1 and microdrives. The article should have read "add-ons such as Interface 1 connect without difficulty."

Saga has also informed us of its new range of carrying cases and dust covers for the keyboard and computers. The carrying case is made of waterproof vinyl with two compartments made of a shatter-proof ABS with a thick high density black foam lining. It has black leather straps and carrying handle which is riveted into position. It costs £26.95.

The dustcover fits the Emperor keyboard and is made of nylon. It can be obtained for £4.49.

Finally, Saga is about to release a peripheral kit which includes the keyboard, Soundboost, Flexicable, Paddle board, carrying case and dustcover. More information about the Saga System peripherals for the Spectrum can be obtained from Saga Systems Ltd, Woodham Road, Woking, Surrey, GU21 4DL.

QL conversion

THE LATEST item for the QL is a serial to Centronics converter from Tyepro Ltd.

It is housed in a grey plastic box and on one side there is a built-in lead to the printer. You must furnish your own lead to connect to the QL, but the ample instructions advise you on how that should be done.

The unit will drive standard Centronics interface printers from the QL RS232 printer interface, and so scores over normal Centronics interfaces in that no extra software is needed to control the interface. You are, in fact, using the RS232 interface inside the QL, together with its software. It has a switchable baud rate, via a dial switch inside the unit, from 150 to 19200 baud, so is adaptable to most printers. It is supplied set for 9600 baud, the setting for the QL Super Basic

Though the converter is powered from the QL it does have a facility for running from a battery, should you want to use it on other computers, such as the Spectrum with Interface 1. The instructions also have a fault-finding guide.

All in all, for £49.95 a reasonable investment. It is obtainable from Tyepro Ltd.

more hardware on page 59

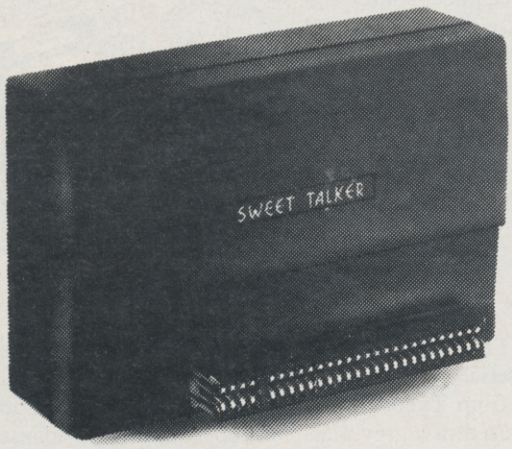
Why wait any longer?

Upgrade your 16K ZX SPECTRUM Now!

The CHEETAH 32K RAMPACK simply plugs into the user port at the rear of your computer and increases the memory instantly to 48K.

- ★ Fully compatible with all SINCLAIR accessories via rear edge connector
- ★ **NO NEED TO OPEN COMPUTER AND INVALIDATE GUARANTEE**
- ★ Why send your computer away and wait weeks for upgrade
- ★ Fully cased tested and guaranteed.

only £39·95
including VAT and P&P.



Now make your Spectrum and ZX-81 Talk

Compatible with Interface I & II

The Cheetah "SWEET TALKER" just plugs into the back of the computer using the existing power supply. Based on an allophone system you can easily program any word sentence or phrase. Fully cased, tested guaranteed and compatible with all SINCLAIR accessories via rear edge connector. Complete with demonstration cassette and full instructions.
No more lonely nights!

Simply incredible at **£29·75**

(Please quote when ordering whether Spectrum or ZX81 owner)

16K RAM Pack for ZX-81	£19.75
64K RAM Pack for ZX-81	£44.75

Prices include VAT, postage & packing. Delivery normally 14 days. Export orders at no extra cost.

Dealer enquiries welcome

Cheetah, products available from branches of

John Menzies Boots WHSMITH Rumbelows

and all good computer stores

Cheetah Marketing

Dept SU
Cheetah Marketing Ltd, 24 Ray Street,
London EC1R 3DJ. Tel: 01 833 4909.
Telex: 8954958.

Long leads on drives

CLASSIFIED Product Services has recently increased its range of leads for the Spectrum and QL. In addition to the Spectrum flexible connectors — see *Sinclair User,* August — it can now supply extra long microdrive leads and RS232 cables.

The microdrive lead, which is 42cm long as opposed to the standard 8cm, is £8.50 and the RS232 leads are £10.95 for the Spectrum and £10.00 for the QL, both cheaper than Sinclairs'.

Other leads are available to extend the ariel or joystick leads. For further details contact Classified Product Services Ltd, Shire Hall, The Sands, Appleby-in-Westmorland, Cumbria CA16 6XN.

Keyboard has class

THE LATEST add-on keyboard to hit the crowded Spectrum market is the Cheetah 68FX1 from London MicroTech Ltd, marketed by Fox Electronics Ltd. Aimed at the upper end of the market it has 65 keys, using proper switches, including 13 single key functions and a 145mm long space bar. Those are arranged as a main keyboard with a separate numeric pad and are printed in two colours, black and red.

On the left is a true Shift Lock key — one press puts the lock on and the second takes it off — and two blank keys. While, in theory, you could wire those for your own needs, in practice it would be extremely difficult as the leads to the switches have been cut so short as to make them inaccessible.

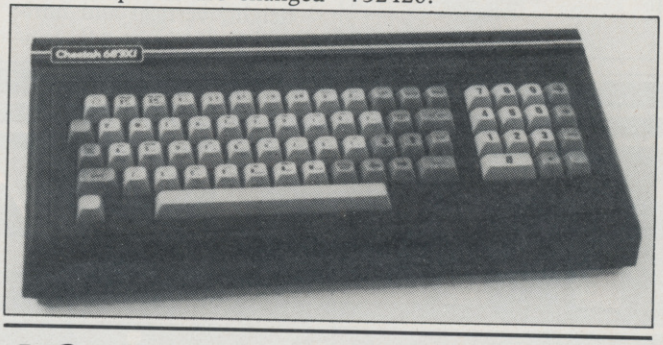
To the right the single key functions are Edit, Delete, Break (Caps Shift and Space), Graphics (which toggles on and off), Run (R followed by Enter), four shifted cursor keys and an extra Caps Shift. The only obvious omission is an 'E' mode key, particularly as there are not two shift keys conveniently adjacent.

Fitting it entails removing the Spectrum from the original case and then mounting it on pillars on the base of the keyboard. Two ribbon cables from the new keyboards then fit into the top of the PCB and the whole assembly is screwed together. That is like most other full-sized keyboards and should not be a problem.

If Interface 1 is to be fitted then the pillars are changed around and the interface sits underneath the base of the keyboard. The instructions for that are not very clear so trial and error will be needed. As the base is of metal great care should also be taken.

Overall, the keyboard has a good feel to it, it is solidly built and while the keys are heavy they will probably loosen with use. The shifted cursor keys are useful for program writing or word processing and the lack of 'E' mode key could be overcome with familiarity.

The price of £59.95 inc. puts it near the top of the scale but even so it is still good value. It is available by mail order from Fox Electronics Ltd, Fox House, 35 Martham Road, Hemsby, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR29 4NQ. Tel: (0493) 732420.

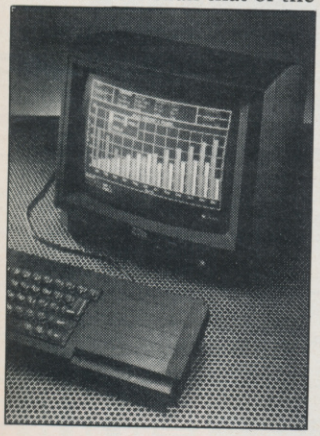


Cubs on screen

AN ATTRACTIVE alternative to the common TV set is provided by the Microvitec Cub monitors for the Spectrum and QL.

The Spectrum 452 Cub, cased in metallic black, is supplied with an interface lead which plugs into the back. The connection to the Spectrum is made using a PCB which slots onto the bus at the back of the computer.

Picture quality is excellent and the definition of graphic and textual displays beats that of a television set. The reason for that is that the dot density on a TV screen is much thinner than that of the monitor. For business purposes the 452 will show charts with remarkable clarity and will be of great help in spotting the mistakes in word processed text as the quality of the picture will reduce eye fatigue.



For the QL the interface arrangement is much simpler because of the RGB port at the back of the machine. The lead is supplied as well as Sinclair Research.

The Cub 653 for the QL is smarter than the Spectrum version and is built into a black plastic moulded casing. Its definition enhances the QL display in both television and monitor modes.

Both monitors have a 22in screen. The Spectrum version can only be switched off at the mains whereas the QL Cub contains an illuminated switch at the front of the base.

The QL monitor costs £275.00 and the Spectrum Cub costs £225.00. Both versions can be obtained from Microvitec PLC, Futures Way, Bolling Road, Bradford, BD4 7TU.

After the lights go out

TIMELY arrivals for the ZX-81 and Spectrum are the Nike-81 and Nike-SP from Cambridge Microelectronics Ltd. They are small boxes with rechargeable batteries which, in the event of a power cut, maintain the power to the computer so you do not lose your program.

On top is a switch to turn the computer on and off and two LEDs, a green one to show the computer is on and a red one for when the mains fail.

The box also contains a mains filter which stops any mains-borne interference from blowing the program. To test that a printer, TV, lamp, disc drive and the computer were connected through one switch which was turned off and on again without losing the program, a very severe test for any filter.

In use the box keeps itself charged and, in the event of a power cut, it can support the computer, interfaces and RAM packs for a minimum of 30 minutes. If you use your computer seriously then this is a vital addition.

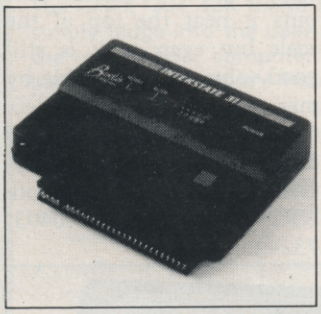
Both the Nike-81 and Nike-SP are priced at £19.95 inc. and are available from Cambridge Microelectronics Ltd, 1 Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1UY.

more hardware on page 16

Auto-fire Bud interface

YET ANOTHER joystick interface from a new hardware company made its appearance at the last Microfair. The Interstate 31 from Bud Computers Ltd is a standard Kempston interface — i.e. it will work with all Kempston compatible games — but has two additions.

On some games you must repeatedly hit the fire button as only one bullet/rocket/bomb is fired for each key press. With this interface a small switch is moved to the 'Auto' position and now by keeping the fire button pressed you maintain firing, a great saving on both finger and keyboard. Secondly, a reset button has been included, allowing you to break out of a machine code game without pulling the plug.



As is all too common these days, the interface does not have a through connector for other add-ons. It sits flat and there should be no problems with the joystick lead fouling the computer if you have a full-sized keyboard.

Bud Computers Ltd is at 196 Milburn Road, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 0PH. Tel: (0670) 856616. The interface is priced at £11.95. It is guaranteed for 18 months or 30,000 Galactic miles, although no one has yet claimed under the latter.

Special monitor

THE NEW 14in, 1302-2 High Resolution Monitor from Opus Supplies is one of the few monitors which has been specially configured to work with the QL. It gives a clear 85 character display.

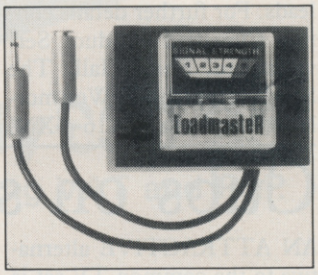
It is housed in a large cream case with the on/off switch and brightness controls to the right of the screen. All the other controls — height, vertical and horizontal hold, are well concealed in the back of the set. To get to them the instructions suggest that you poke a screwdriver through the ventilation slots in the back. Not something that should be recommended. Fortunately the set should not need any initial adjustment.

The monitor is priced at £299.95, including VAT and delivery, from Opus Supplies Ltd, 158 Caberwell Road, London SE5 0EE.

Reading volumes

WHEN LOADING programs from tape a VU, or signal strength, meter is an invaluable aid. The Loadmaster Volume Indicator from Probemaster is a meter which plugs into the EAR lead between the cassette deck and computer and displays the volume which the computer is receiving.

Priced at £11.49 it provides a useful addition if your cassette deck does not already have a meter. From Probemaster Ltd, 23 The Ridgeway, Cuffley, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 4BB.



REPAIRS!

Fast, expert service at unbeatable prices:

Spectrum	ZX Printer	ZX 81
22·50	19·50	16·00

PRICES INCLUDE VAT and P&P.
ABNORMAL DAMAGE not included in above prices – Send machine for quote.

SEND YOUR MACHINE(S) PLUS REMITTANCE TO:
C.K. COMPUTAFIX, ESTOVER CLOSE, ESTOVER, PLYMOUTH. PL6 7PL
C.K.Computafix is a divison of C.K.Computers.

I enclose a cheque for £ _____
or debit my Access/Barclaycard no: _____
for repair of my: _____
Serial No(s): _____
NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
_____
TEL.NO. _____ **Signature** _____

WATFORD PLUGS THE GAP

SP-DOS
Spectrum Disc Operating System

- Single Drive capacities from 200K to 800K (formatted)
- Expandable to a massive 3.2Mb (formatted)
- Turn-key System capabilities
- Disc versions of Tasword Two, Masterfile and Omnicalc 2, together worth £50 included FREE OF CHARGE
- 100% compatible with the Watford Centronics/RS232 Printer Interface
- Comprehensive manual with step by step instructions

Watford Centronics/
RS232 Printer Interface

- The first and still the best Printer Interface
- Centronics and Bi-directional RS232 with full hand shaking
- Compatible with Interface 1, Interface 2, Microdrives and Watford's Spectrum Disc Operating System
- Compatible with most Professional programs
- Hi-Res screen dumps in two sizes on most dot matrix printers—a standard feature not an extra

£99.00
(Carr. £2)

£29.95
(Carr. £2)

Professional Computing Power

Get plugged into real computing with Watford's Spectrum Disc Operating System and Centronics/RS232 Printer Interface. Professional power for Spectrum users starts at under £400 with a 200K Disc Drive, Seikosha GP100A Printer, Spectrum Disc Operating System, Centronics/RS232 Printer Interface, printer cable and Tasword Two, Masterfile and Omnicalc 2 included absolutely FREE OF CHARGE. Now all Spectrum users can PLUG THE GAP.

Write for FREE leaflet on SP-DOS Spectrum Disc Operating System and Centronics/RS232 Printer Interface.

Mail Order and Retail Shop. Trade and Export inquiries welcome. Government and Educational Establishments Official orders accepted.
Prices subject to change without notice. All goods advertised subject to availability.
VAT: UK customers please add 15% VAT to total cost including any carriage charges. Overseas customers—No VAT payable
Access Orders: Phone (0923) 50234 (24 Hrs)

SP-DOS Disc Drive Prices

SPS2	200K Single formatted	£129.00
SPS4	400K Single formatted	£149.00
SPS8	800K Single formatted	£175.00
SPD1M6	1.6Mbyte Twin formatted	£339.00

(Carr. on Drives £7—Securicor)

Printer Prices

Seikosha GP100A	£125.00
QUEN-DATA DPW1120 Daisywheel	£175.00
Epson RX80	£229.00
KAGA/TAXAN KP810	£235.00
Epson RX80 F/T	£245.00
Epson FX80	£316.00
Brother HR15 Daisywheel	£339.00
Epson FX100	£435.00
KAGA/TAXAN KP910	£349.00
Centronics or RS232 Printer cable (Please specify which is required)	£8.00

Carr. on Printers £7—Securicor

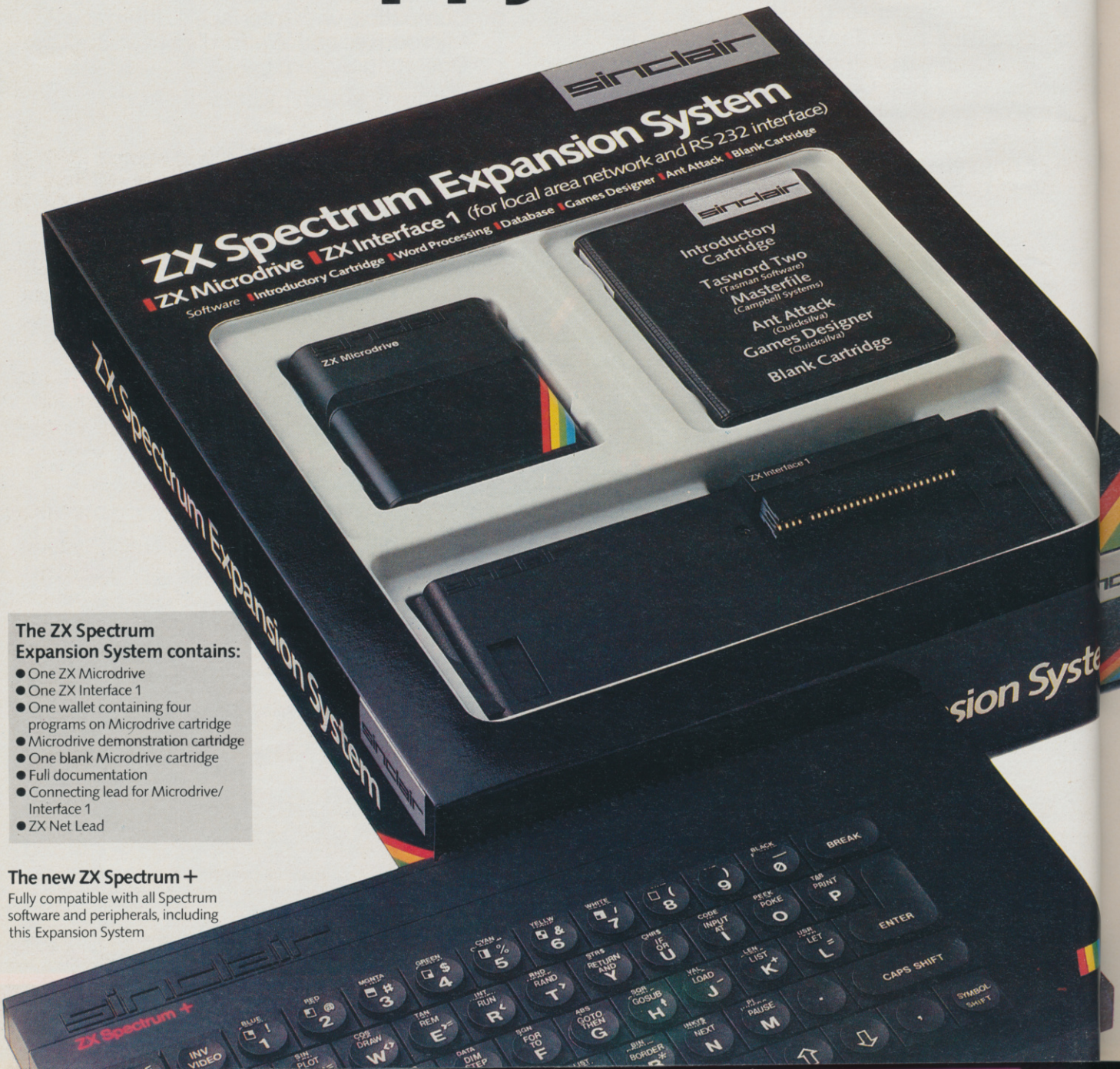
Watford Electronics

Shop Hours: 9am to 6pm
Monday to Saturday

Cardiff Road, Watford, Herts Telephone: (0923) 40588/37774 Telex 8956095 WAELEC

The ZX Spectrum Expansion System. Only £99·95

Sinclair's complete alternative to floppy discs...



The ZX Spectrum Expansion System contains:

- One ZX Microdrive
- One ZX Interface 1
- One wallet containing four programs on Microdrive cartridge
- Microdrive demonstration cartridge
- One blank Microdrive cartridge
- Full documentation
- Connecting lead for Microdrive/ Interface 1
- ZX Net Lead

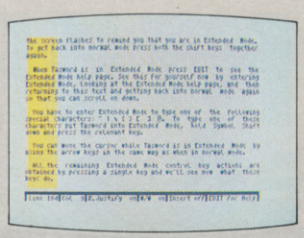
The new ZX Spectrum +
Fully compatible with all Spectrum software and peripherals, including this Expansion System

Tasword Two word processor

Turns your ZX Spectrum into a high-quality word processor!

Tasword Two has all the essential features of professional word processing packages – move and copy, insert, margin settings, 'help' pages, find and replace, and much more.

Written by Tasman Software Ltd.
Usual price (RRP): £13.90.

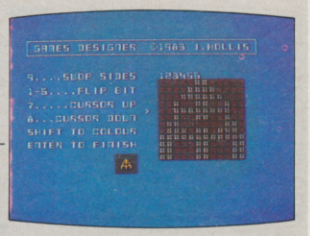


Games Designer

Now, all you need to create original games are original ideas – and Games Designer! It has eight, very different, pre-programmed games for you to play as they are – or modify out of all recognition!

There's never before been an easier, more enjoyable, way into games design.

Written by Quicksilva Ltd.
Usual price (RRP): £14.95.

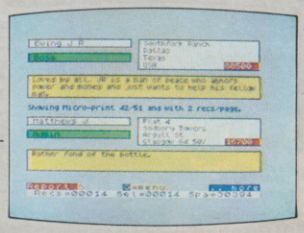


Masterfile filing system

Address lists... personal files... stock inventories... stamp or album collections... club records... recipes ... if you can file it, you can Masterfile it!

Masterfile is a menu-driven filing and retrieval system of immense power. Display formats are user-defined, so the range of applications is enormous.

Written by Campbell Systems Ltd.
Usual price (RRP): £16.95.



Ant Attack

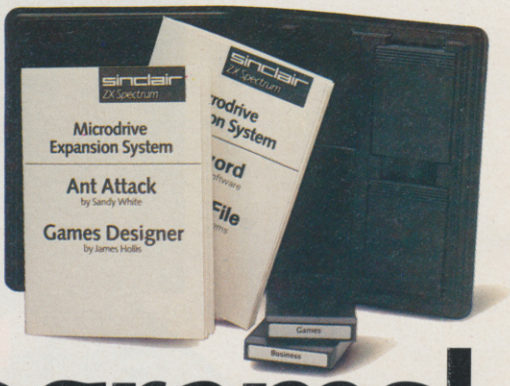
The all-time classic 3D strategy game. Ant Attack combines stunning Escher-like graphics with fast-moving action and a real tactical challenge.

Your task is to enter the walled city, seek out your captured partner, and escape. At all times you can choose from four angles of view. But beware: the city is patrolled by giant ants...

Written by Quicksilva Ltd. Usual price (RRP): £6.95.

All programs run on a 48K Spectrum or Spectrum +. Recommended retail prices are for each program on cassette.

...includes this great set of Microdrive programs!



The unique ZX Microdrive system sets the Spectrum apart from all other home computers.

It gives you all the advantages of floppy disc drives – at a fraction of the cost. And tests show the Microdrives are faster than some disc drives.

Now, the complete Microdrive system comes in one package – together with four of the best-ever Spectrum programs, on Microdrive cartridges.

This software alone would normally cost you over £50. Yet the Sinclair price for the complete ZX Spectrum Expansion Pack is just £99.95!

You'll find full details of its contents in the panel opposite.

ZX Microdrives – another Sinclair first!

The ZX Microdrive is a revolutionary fast access / mass storage device. And it's the only truly affordable alternative to disc drives ...

- Loads or saves up to 85K of program or data from Microdrive cartridges.
- Just 3.5 seconds to access a typical file.
- Only 9 seconds to load a typical 48K program.

The ZX Microdrive cartridge – a unique storage medium.

Smaller than a matchbox, the ZX Microdrive cartridge packs in a massive amount of data and programs.

Each Microdrive cartridge holds at least 85K bytes of data or programs (that's 30 pages of A4 text). And you can store up to 50 different data files per cartridge, identified by titles of your choice.

Every cartridge comes in its own protective case. Simply remove the cartridge, slot it into the Microdrive, and it's ready to use.

ZX Interface 1 – adds powerful new capabilities to your Spectrum.

ZX Interface 1 connects to the back of your Spectrum and controls up to 8 Microdrives. (Additional Microdrives are available for £49.95 each.)

It also gives you:

- An RS 232 interface – to link your Spectrum with full-size printers, other computers using RS 232 (the industry-standard interface) and provide data transmission over telephone lines, via modems.
- ZX Net – lets you set up a local area network of up to 64 Spectrums, for high-speed data communications between you and Spectrum-owning friends.

At your local Sinclair stockist – today!

The ZX Spectrum Expansion System adds an exciting new dimension to Spectrum and Spectrum + computing. At £99.95 it's superb value too.

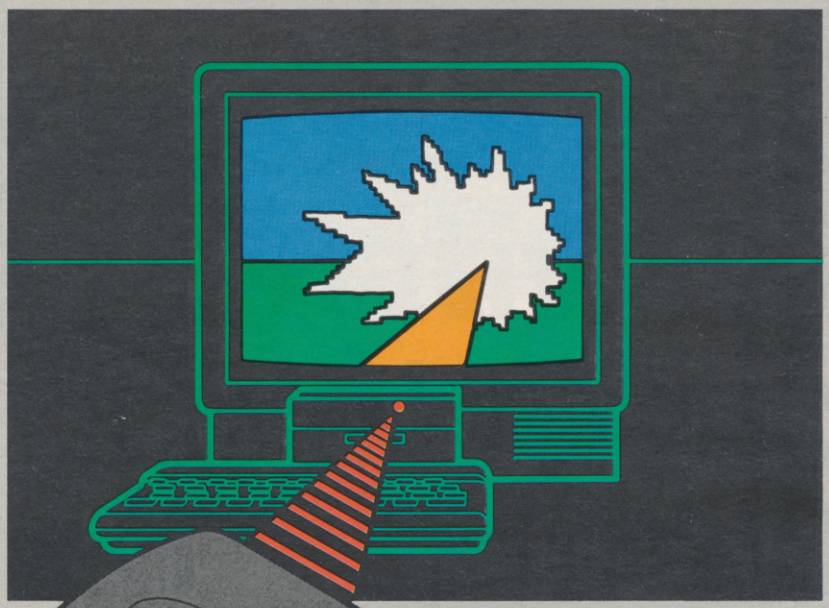
To find out more, call in at your local Sinclair stockist now!

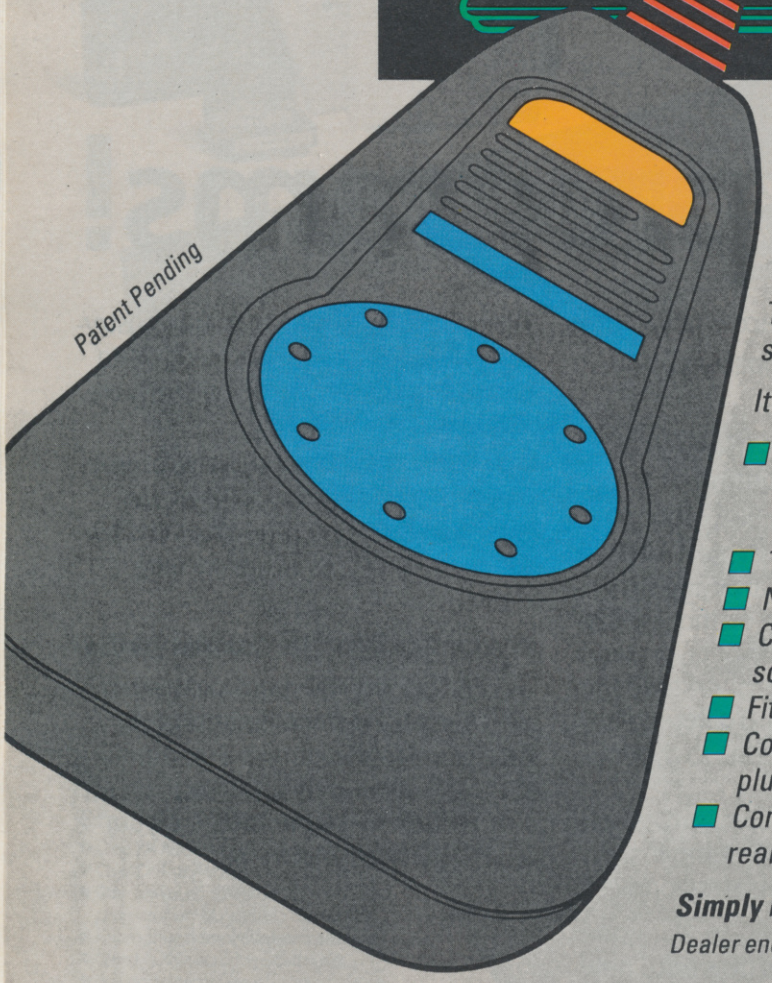
Sinclair Research Ltd,
Camberley (0276) 685311.

© sinclair, ZX, ZX Spectrum, ZX Microdrive, ZX Net and ZX Interface are Trade Marks of Sinclair Research Ltd.

sinclair

THE AGE OF THE R.A.T





CONVENTIONAL JOYSTICKS ARE DEAD!

*The Cheetah **R**emote **A**ction **T**ransmitter is the most sophisticated computer controller available.*

It has these features:

- *Infra Red transmission – so there are no leads trailing across the living room. Just sit back in your chair up to 30 feet from your machine.*
- *Touch control – no moving parts, extremely fast, long life.*
- *No extra software required.*
- *Can be used with all Cheetah RAT/Kempston compatible software.*
- *Fits comfortably in your hand for long play periods.*
- *Comes complete with receiver/interface unit which simply plugs into the rear of your Spectrum.*
- *Compatible with all Sinclair/Cheetah peripherals via the rear edge connector.*

Simply incredible at £29.95 including VAT and p&p.

Dealer enquiries welcome. Export orders at no extra cost.

Send cheque/p.o now to:
Cheetah Marketing Ltd.** (Dept. SU), **24 Ray Street, London EC1R 3DJ. phone 01·833 4909

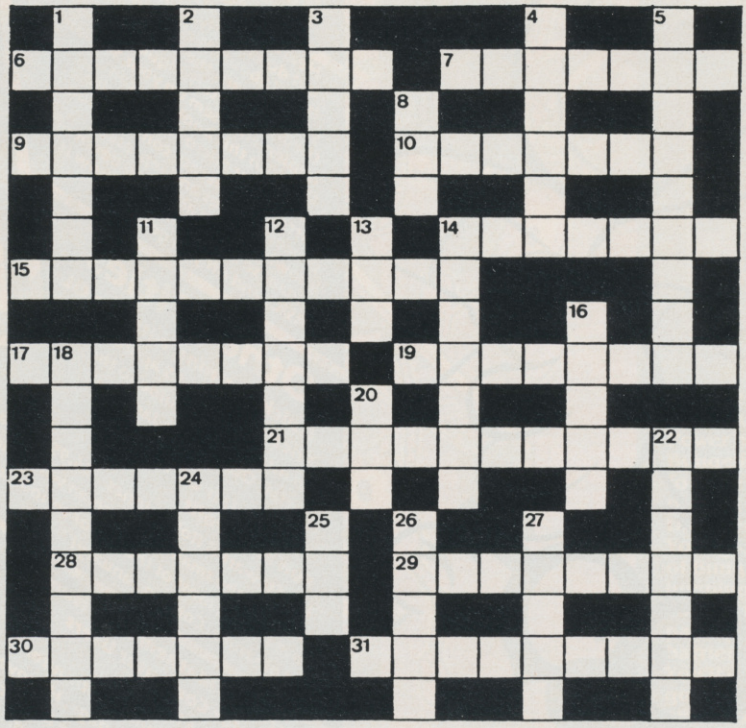
Cheetah products are also available from branches of
John Menzies Boots WHSMITH Rumbelows
and all good computer shops.

Cheetah Marketing

The hacker's crossword

To delight and infuriate you, Sinclair User proudly presents a silicon crossword of heroic difficulty. Tougher than the Times, more devious than the Daily Telegraph, this one will have you racking your brains long after the last carol-singers have faded into the distance.

On the other hand, knowing our readers, you will probably finish the whole thing in fifteen minutes flat.



Solution on page 238

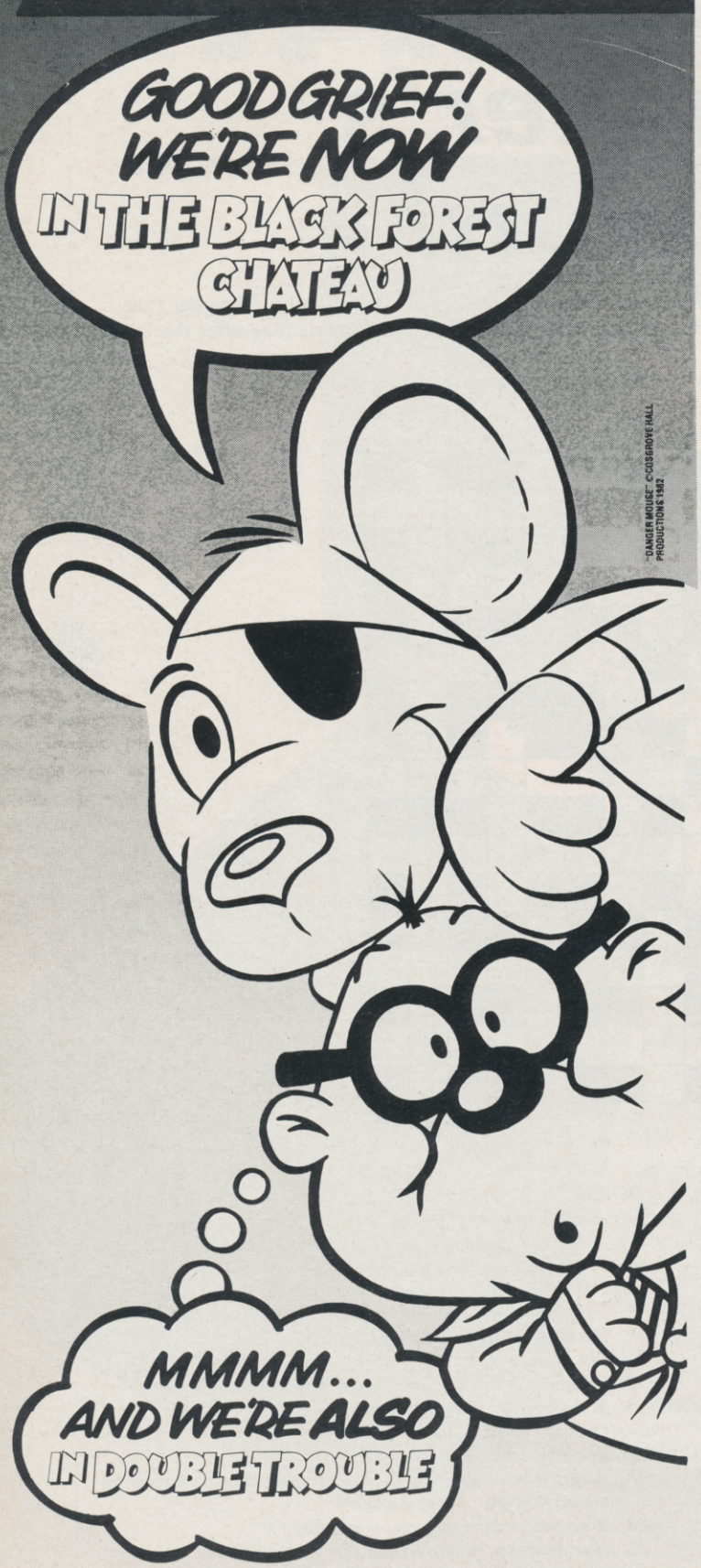
ACROSS

6. *A frenetic compiler for the boundary between hardware units (9)*
7. *Set of instructions in support of the weight (7)*
9. *Automatic checker of the truth, perhaps (8)*
10. *Voltage change done on the spur of the moment? (7)*
14. *Repeat a mathematical procedure (i.e. treat differently) (7)*
15. *Record update needed for a business deal (11)*
17. *Hardcopy certificate (8)*
19. *Anaesthetised deer regrouped and counted! (8)*
21. *Go astray or account for the list of mistakes (5,6)*
23. *Output device with strong union at the press? (7)*
28. *Cut drug with variable resistance (4–3)*
29. *Signs of life in data-processing revealed by cavity, it seems (8)*
30. *Castle managed in high-level language (7)*
31. *Programmed instruction given to the Police (9)*

DOWN

1. *A whole number (7)*
2. *Voltage fluctuation causing continental movement? (5)*
3. *Micro built on car scrap (5)*
4. *Part of 7 needed for the space capsule (6)*
5. *Suitable output medium for press bureaucracy? (5,4)*
8. *Basically a stupid statement concerning arrays (3)*
11. *Put in data back-to-front (5)*
12. *Sampling device used to monitor pregnancies? (7)*
13. *Match record with top-twenty single?*
14. *Question posed at the console (7)*
16. *Assembly-level secretaries? (5)*
18. *Addition or subtraction, for example, could be performed by the surgeon (9)*
20. *A vertical redundancy check, initially (3)*
22. *Humdrum set of instructions (7)*
24. *Old digital alarms for eggs? (6)*
25. *The oracles channel (3)*
26. *Interrupts the program when the apprentice has tea brewed (5)*
27. *Collections of records on life's mystery? (5)*

COMING SOON...



DANGER MOUSE

Two great new games from

CREATIVE SPARKS

Artificial Intelligence: Sinclair QL

Robin Jones and Michael Fairhurst

Heard about artificial intelligence but don't really know what it's all about? Well, now you can learn the basic theories and techniques and implement them on your Sinclair QL. With this book you can teach your micro to recognise patterns, generate conversation, process images and represent knowledge. It's all scaled down of course, so all you need to know is BASIC, and off you go!

£6.95

Other Titles

Quick Learning with the QL
Eric Deeson £6.95 approx
An introductory guide to the Sinclair QL. Coming January!

The Sinclair QL for Fun and Profit
Ian Stewart & Robin Jones £6.95 approx
Ideal for the small businessman who wants to make the most of the QL for serious use and pleasure. Coming January!

Microchip Mathematics: Number Theory for Computer Users
Keith Devlin £12.95
Keith Devlin is a regular contributor to the Guardian's computer page. He covers, in a clear and readable way, the interaction of mathematics and computing.

friendly micro series **shiva**

Shiva titles are available from large branches of Boots, Menzies, W. H. Smith and bookshops, computer shops and department stores. In case of difficulty, please write to: SHIVA PUBLISHING LTD, FREEPOST, 64 Welsh Row, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 5BR. Telephone orders welcome: 0270 628272 (24 hrs/7 days) Telex: 367258 (GASEOP)

ORDER FORM

Qty	Title	Price
.....	Artificial Intelligence: Sinclair QL	£6.95
.....	Quick Learning with the QL	£6.95
.....	The Sinclair QL for Fun and Profit	£6.95
.....	Microchip Mathematics	£12.95

I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to Shiva Publishing Ltd.
For payment by Access/Barclaycard/ American Express:

Card No. .....

Signature .....

Name .....

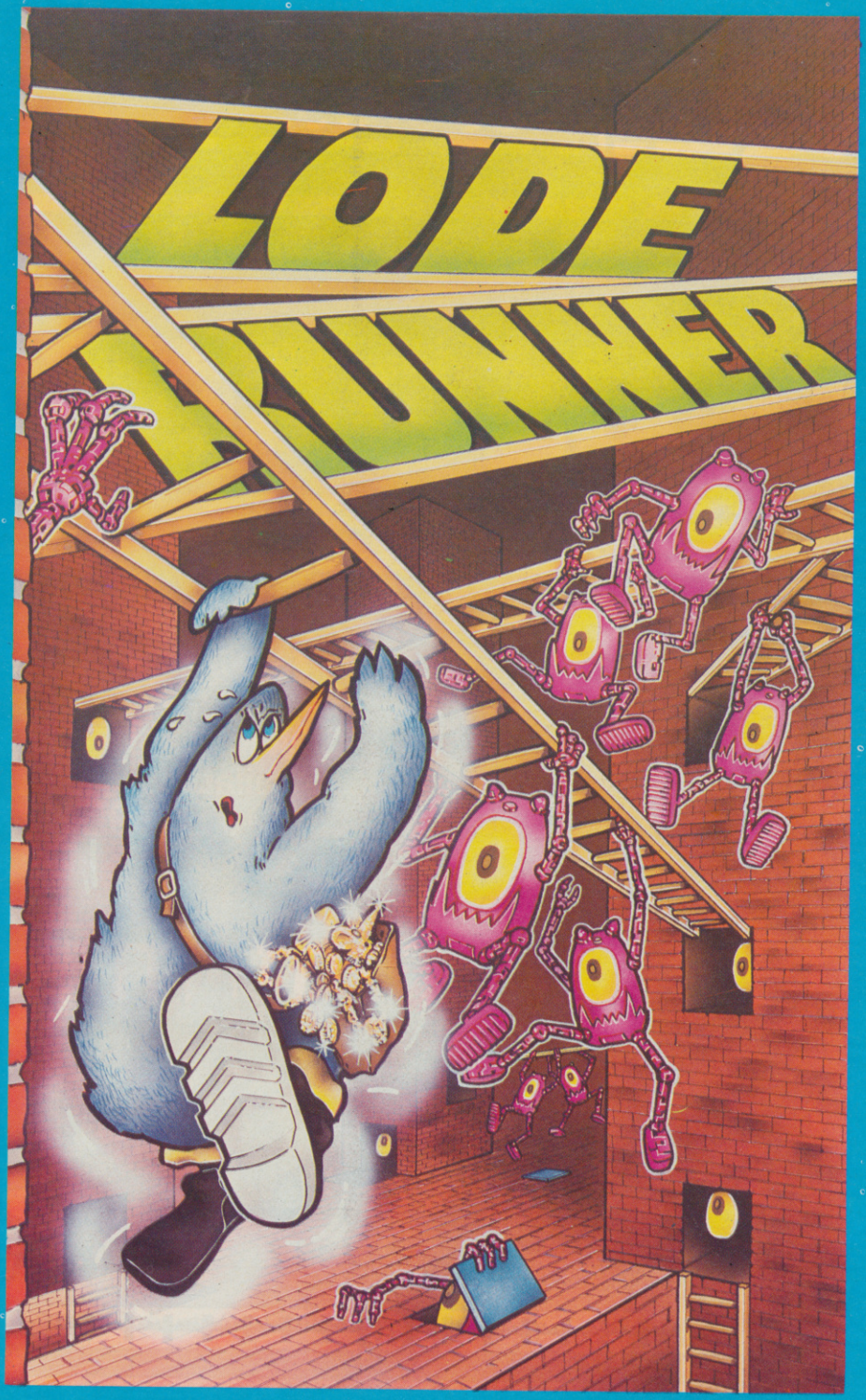
Address .....

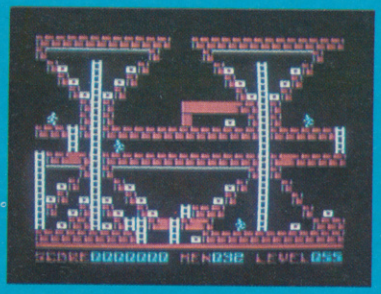
.....

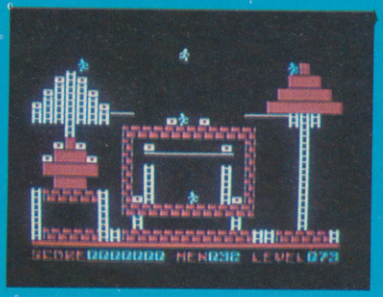
Please send full catalogue of computer books and software ☐

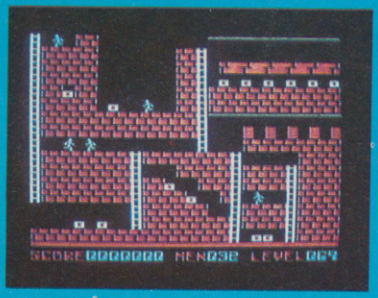
shiva

SU









You are a highly trained Galactic Commando deep in enemy territory. Power hungry leaders of the repressive Bungeling Empire have stolen a fortune in gold from the peace loving people, and you have just discovered their secret underground treasury. Your goal? To recover every last ingot of Bungeling booty. You'll be running, jumping and climbing heroically, solving perplexing puzzles and drilling passageways through stone floors and barriers using your laser drill pistol. You'll need more than fleet feet and good looks to get through this mission alive. You'll need quick wits and brains!

CREATE YOUR OWN GAMES!

Lode Runner is more than a fast action game. It's a game generator that lets you design your own puzzles and scenes. You can move, add and take away countless ladders, floors, trap doors, crossbars, gold chests and Bungeling enemies. It's easy and there's no end to the variations, challenge and fun.

Available on the 48K Spectrum

Send a large stamped addressed envelope for more detailed information on our new releases, plus a free large poster.
All sales enquiries to: Colin Stokes (Sales and Marketing).
For Mail order only: Software Projects, P.O. Box 12, L25 7AF

SOFTWARE PROJECTS

Software Projects Limited, Bearbrand Complex, Allerton Road, Woolton, Liverpool L25 7SF. Telephone: 051-428 9393 (4 lines). Telex: 627520.

Please send me a copy of LODERUNNER
£9.95
I enclose a cheque/PO for.....
(Please add £1.00 for orders outside the UK)

Access

Access Card No .....

Name.....

Address.....

.....

For Mail Order only:
Software Projects, P.O. Box 12, L25 7AF

CheetahSoft presents...

PERILS OF...
BEAR GEORGE

A story of high drama and daring deeds from the annals of our hero BEAR GEORGE — can you help him survive 'unbearable' hazards in the forest and deep cold of the mountains, and then live through hibernation?

SPECIAL EDITION for COMMODORE 64 Available Now! only £6·95

(Graphics shown above are as on Spectrum 48k version.)

- Superb animation and graphics
- Joystick compatible (Cheetah R.A.T., Kempston, Interfaces 1 and 2)
- Built-in surprise for the real gluttons amongst you!

Available NOW on the Spectrum 48k, price £6.95 PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW!

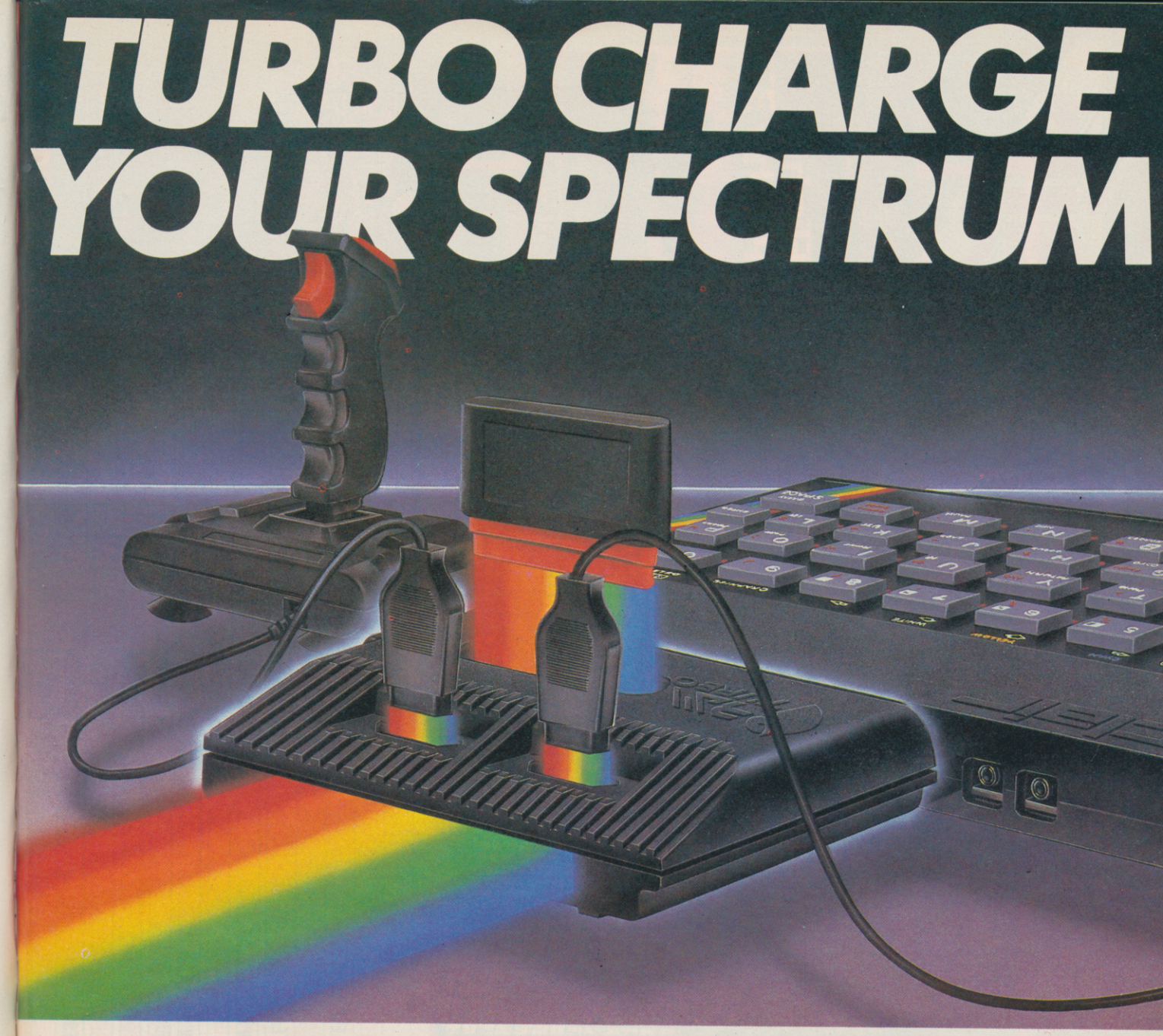
Available at good software shops or by sending cheque/P.O. for £6.95 to:-

CheetahSoft

Soft we're not

Cheetah Soft Ltd.
24 Ray Street,
London EC1R 3DJ.
Tel: 01 833 4733

TURBO CHARGE YOUR SPECTRUM



Outperforms any Spectrum interface

The unique Turbo interface from Ram gives you all these features – and more – in one unit:

- A variety of interfaces including: Rom cartridges, two 9-way D plugs for standard joysticks, PLUS full expansion bus at rear.
- Compatible with Kempston and Protek protocols.
- Works with latest Quickshot Mk II auto rapid-fire joysticks!
- Choice of Rom cartridge or tape cassette software.
- Instant program loading with cartridge software.
- Built-in power safety device – unique to Ram Turbo.
- Full one year guarantee.
- Immediate availability – 24 Hr despatch on receipt of P.O./ credit card details (cheques – seven days).
- Incredible value – only £22.95.

So don't wait around – simply complete the coupon and send it to us today.

Or call our credit card hot line on 02514 25252. (Access and Visa welcome).

Ram Electronics (Fleet) Ltd, 106 Fleet Road, Fleet, Hampshire GU13 8PA.

24 Hr despatch for credit cards and postal orders

Please send me:

_____ Spectrum Turbo Interface(s) at £22.95 + £1 p+p (overseas orders £3 p+p)

_____ Quickshot II Joystick(s) at £9.95 (Only when purchased with Turbo – normally £12.95 + £1 p+p)

I enclose cheque/postal order or charge my Access/Visa for: £_____

VISA

Name_____

Address_____

_____

_____ Tel _____ SU 12

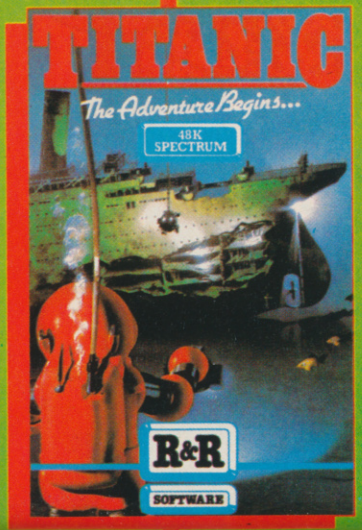
To: Ram Electronics (Fleet) Ltd, 106 Fleet Road, Fleet, Hampshire GU13 8PA.

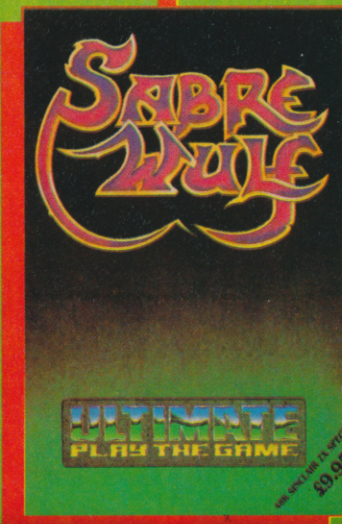
RAM TURBO

Trade and export enquiries welcome.

DAILY Mirror sinclair user

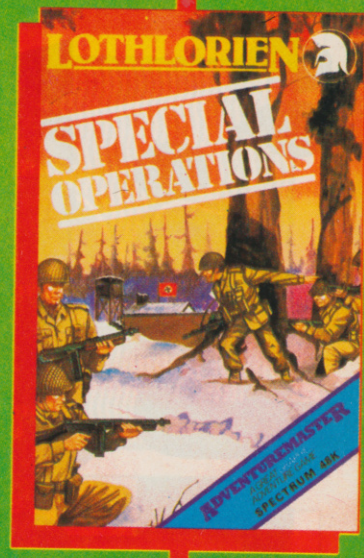
SOFTWARE Top 30

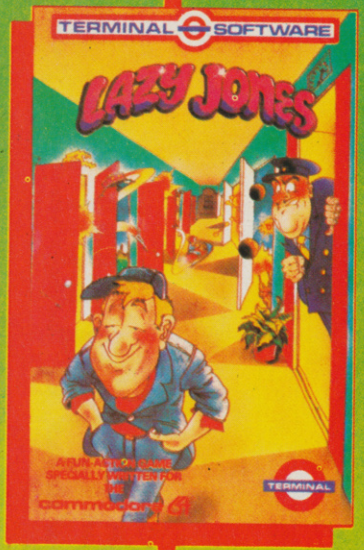




THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS IN CHART	TITLE	Publisher	Computer	(Also Available on) SPECTRUM	VIC 20	CMMDRE 64	ELECTRON	ATARI	DRAGON	ORIC	BBC	OTHER
1	1	4	DALEY THOMPSON'S DECATHLON	OCEAN	SPECTRUM	●		●						
2	2	2	ELITE	ACORNSOFT	BBC								●	
3	2	5	DALEY THOMPSON'S DECATHLON	OCEAN	COMMODORE 64	●		●						
4	4	2	BEACH-HEAD	ACCESS/U.S. GOLD	SPECTRUM	●		●						
5	7	4	MONTY MOLE	GREMLIN GRAPHICS	SPECTRUM	●		●						
6	6	16	JET SET WILLY	SOFTWARE PROJECTS	SPECTRUM	●		●						
7	5	2	SHERLOCK HOLMES	MELBOURNE HOUSE	SPECTRUM	●								
★8		1	JET SET WILLY	SOFTWARE PROJECTS	COMMODORE 64	●		●						
10	20	3	FRANK N. STEIN	P.S.S.	SPECTRUM	●								

★8		1	JET SET WILLY SOFTWARE PROJECTS	COMMODORE 64	●		●							
9	8	8	FULL THROTTLE MICROMEGA	SPECTRUM	●									
10	20	3	FRANK. N. STEIN P.S.S.	SPECTRUM	●									
11	17	2	CHILLER MASTERTRONIC	COMMODORE 64			●							
12	15	2	KOKOTONI WILF ELITE	SPECTRUM	●									
13	27	10	BEACH-HEAD ACCESS/U.S. GOLD	COMMODORE 64	●		●							
★14		1	DARK STAR DESIGN DESIGN	SPECTRUM	●									
15	12	10	LORDS OF MIDNIGHT BEYOND	SPECTRUM	●									
16	13	10	SABRE WULF ULTIMATE	SPECTRUM	●									
★17		1	HUNTERKILLER PROTEK	SPECTRUM	●									
18	21	9	TORNADO LOW LEVEL VORTEX	SPECTRUM	●									
★19		1	ZAXXON ACCESS/U.S. GOLD	COMMODORE 64			●							
20	11	3	DEATH STAR INTERCEPTOR SYSTEM 3	COMMODORE 64			●							
★21		1	QUO VADIS THE EDGE	COMMODORE 64			●							
22	23	2	CHESS PSION	SPECTRUM	●									
★23		1	DANGER MOUSE CREATIVE SPARKS	SPECTRUM	●									
24	16	2	CHEQUERED FLAG PSION	SPECTRUM	●									
★25		1	ALCATRAZ HARRY MASTERTRONIC	SPECTRUM	●									
★26		1	FALCON PATROL II VIRGIN	COMMODORE 64			●							
★27		1	HECTIC MASTERTRONIC	VIC 20		●								
28	19	4	MONTY MOLE GREMLIN GRAPHICS	COMMODORE 64	●		●							
★29		1	INTERNATIONAL SOCCER COMMODORE	COMMODORE 64			●							
★30		1	ARABIAN NIGHTS INTERCEPTOR MICROS	COMMODORE 64			●							





Look out for the brand new 'Top 10' in the Saturday edition of the DAILY MIRROR, every fortnight.
Plus the complete 'Top 30' in Computer & Video Games at your newsagent on the 16th of every month.
Information compiled by N.O.P. Market Research Ltd.

© EMAP Business & Computer publications 1984

"Brilliant..." Elementary my dear Watson.

'Sherlock must be the most complex adventure ever created.

The creation of atmosphere is superb (more like that of a novel than a computer game) in fact playing the adventure feels more like acting than playing a computer adventure.

The characters in Sherlock behave just as they would in real life and have a very human feel to them, not only in the way they react to situations, but also in their displaying of human emotions.'

MR STERN, HERTS

'Sherlock Holmes has been well worth waiting for with an 800 word vocabulary, real Victorian transport system — cabs and trains and all, and a cast of characters peopling graphics screens designed by Mugsy man Russell Comte.'

YOUR COMPUTER

'Sherlock is an incredibly sophisticated program. The most impressive feature is the convincing way in which the leading characters go about their interrogations and how these can be followed up with meaningful discussion between the protagonists.'

CRASH

'I have been totally enthralled with this new brilliant adventure. I thought the Hobbit was good, but the added vocabulary and the even more intelligent characters, makes Sherlock number one in my software collection.'

MR ROGERS, BATH

'Your game is atmospheric. I have to admit it is actually real. I am referring to of course, the characters who work so independently that I am amazed at their individual characteristics every time I play the game.'

MR DEMPSTER, SCOTLAND

'In Sherlock you can not only talk to other characters, of whom there are at least thirteen, and ask them to do things for you, but you can also interrogate them and even discuss the case.'

SINCLAIR USER

'Rich mental imagery.' *CRASH*

☐ Please send me your free catalogue.
☐ Please send me Spectrum Sherlock 48K @ £14.95

All Melbourne House cassette software is unconditionally guaranteed against malfunction.

I enclose my cheque/money order for £	£
Please debit my Access Card No. Expiry Date	£ +p/p .80
Signature	Total £
Name	
Address	
Postcode	

Orders to:
Melbourne House Publishers,
39 Milton Trading Estate
Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4TD

Correspondence to:
Church Yard,
Tring,
Hertfordshire HP23 5LU

Access orders can be telephoned through on our 24-hour ansafone (0235) 83 5001.

All prices include VAT where applicable. Please add 80p for post and pack.
Trade enquiries welcome.

Melbourne House

SU12A

Interface NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE!

This superb new interface is one of our very latest developments for your Spectrum.
Offering even more features, and as it's programmable from the keyboard or with the cassette supplied you can now use it with any software.

Features include:-

- 17 directional movement
- Keyboard fully functional
- Rear connector for other add-ons
- Microdrive compatible

ONLY £22.95

Interface NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE!

The Spectrum dual port joystick interface is a highly versatile and price competitive joystick interface offering two joysiick ports.
The first port simulates 6,7,8,9, & 0 keys. The second port simulates in (31) command.
The ports will accept any Atari style joystick.
It will run any software. That is:-

- Using keys 6,7,8,9 & 0.
- Having redefinable key functions.
- Using in (31) (i.e. Kempston).

ONLY £13.00

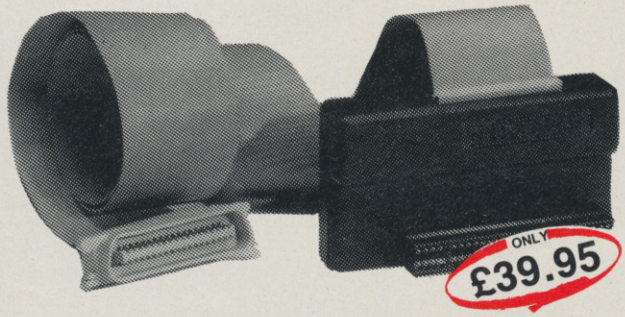
Interface NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE!

The new dk'tronics Parallel Centronics Interface will link your Spectrum to any printer with a standard centronics input. As the choice is vast, you can select the printer exactly suited to your needs.

Features of the Interface include:

- Runs all parallel centronics type printers
- Controlling software fully relocatable
- Interfaces with any software using the printer channel e.g. Tasword Dev pack etc.
- LLIST LPRINT recognised. High res screen dumps
- All control codes allowed through to printer
- Fully microdrive compatible
- Supplied with full instructions and controlling software

All dk'tronics products are covered by a comprehensive guarantee.



ONLY £39.95

Interface NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE!

Our new generation light pen and interface is designed specifically for your Spectrum and works down to pixel level for complete accuracy.
Now you can produce high resolution illustrations with the 16 pre-defined instructions, selected from the screen controlled menu. Change colour, border, paper, ink. Draw circles, arcs, boxes or lines. You can fill in objects with colour, insert text or draw freehand, save and load completed or partially completed screens onto and from a tape and with a 48K Spectrum retain screens in memory and animate.
You can also use the machine codes in your own programmes for selecting from a menu, playing games etc. (all entry points supplied).
The interface fits neatly into position and comes complete with software cassette.

ONLY £19.95

ALL OUR PERIPHERALS ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE NEW SPECTRUM +

Please rush me the following:

Programmable Interface(s) ..... £_____
Dual Port Interface(s) ..... £_____
Parallel Centronics Interface(s) ..... £_____
Light Pen and Interface(s) ..... £_____

Please add post and packing ..... £ 1.25
I enclose cheque/PO/Cash for ..... Total £_____
or debit my Access/Barclaycard No. [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

Signature _____ Name _____

Address _____

Or send S.A.E. for the New D.K.Tronics Spectrum Catalogue SU/12/84

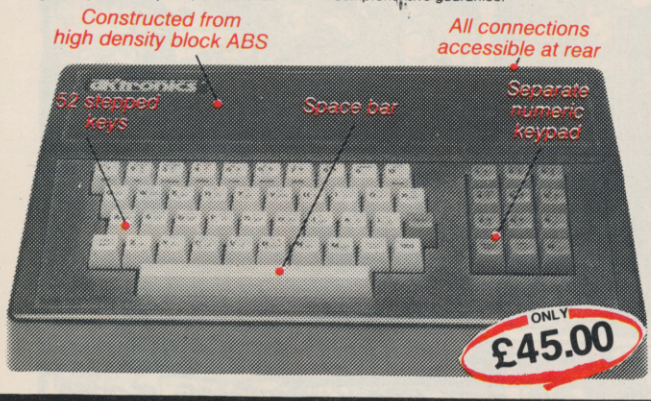
dk'tronics

DK Tronics Ltd., Unit 6, Shire Hill Industrial Estate, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3AQ. Telephone: (0799) 26350 (24 hrs) 5 lines

The Spectrum Connection

THE FINAL TOUCH

We've just added the final touch to our professional keyboard.
This new Microdrive compatible keyboard offers more key functions than any other in its price range. And the stepped keys and space bar make it even easier to use.
Our keyboard, constructed from high density black ABS, will take your Spectrum into the professional league.
It has 52 "stepped" keys plus space bar. A separate numeric key pad consisting of 12 red keys including a single entry 'delete' plus single entry 'decimal point', facilitate fast numeric data entry.
The 15" x 9" x 3" case will accommodate your Spectrum and other addons like interface 1, power supply etc. and forms an attractive self-contained unit.
All connections, power, Mic, Ear, T.V., network RS232 and expansion port are accessible at the rear.
A few minutes, a screwdriver and the simple instructions supplied are all you need to fit your Spectrum.
All dk'tronics products are covered by a comprehensive guarantee.



FOLLOW OUR LEAD FOR THE RIGHT CONNECTIONS

MICRO DRIVE EXTENSION LEAD

This is an 8" version of the micro 16 way drive lead. Sinclair's lead is only 4" long and for many applications this may not be long enough. It enables you to space the micro drive much further away from Interface I.

56 WAY RIBBON CONNECTOR

This is an extension cable that enables Spectrum peripherals to be distanced from the computer.
It is supplied 9" in length and will allow male or female connections to be made to the computer.
The connector has special lugs to enable easy fitting/removal from the computer's expansion port.

WINNING IS WITHIN YOUR GRASP

Quickshot Joystick I

- Super positive response
- 2 fire buttons
- Stabilising suction caps
- 4ft lead

Quickshot Joystick II

Incorporating all the features of 'Quickshot I' plus

- Improved control grip
- Trigger fire button
- Rapid fire option

SOUND IDEAS FOR YOUR SPECTRUM

Three Channel Sound Synthesiser interface incorporates a BEEP audio amplifier and a 3 channel sound sythesiser.
The BEEP amplifier improves the sound quality and output of the BEEP enormously. The 3 channel sound synthesiser adds a totally new dimension to sound on your Spectrum. It allows you to program your own music with harmonies, explosions, zaps, chimes, whistles and an infinite range of other sounds over a full 8 octaves.
Based around the popular AY-3-8912 sound chip it gives you complete control (from basic or M/C) over 3 channels of tone and/or white noise, plus envelope and volume control. It comes with it's own pod mounted (4") speaker with 1 metre of cable so that it can be positioned anywhere.
Once this is fitted to the expansion port your programmes will never sound the same again!

Please rush me the following:

Microdrive Compatible Keyboard(s)	£
Microdrive Extension Lead(s)	£
56 Way Ribbon Connector(s)	£
Quickshot Joystick(s) I	£
Quickshot Joystick(s) II	£
Three Channel Sound Synthesiser	£
Please add post and packing	£ 1.25
I enclose cheque/PO/Cash for	Total £

or debit my Access/Barclaycard No. [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

Signature _____ Name _____

Address _____

SU/12/84

Or send S.A.E. for the New D.K.Tronics Spectrum Catalogue

ALL OUR PERIPHERALS ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE NEW SPECTRUM +

dk'tronics

DK Tronics Ltd., Unit 6, Shire Hill Industrial Estate, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3AQ. Telephone: (0799) 26350 (24 hrs) 5 lines

The Spectrum Connection

SINCLAIR SIMON
by ZAK
CHRISTMAS MORNING....
THIS IS THE STORY OF A GREAT MAN, BUTCH.
A CHRISTMAS CAROL
INFERNAL RACKET! I'LL HAVE TO START ALL OVER AGAIN!
WHAAT...
BEWAARE SIR CLIVE OR YOU WILL SHARE OUR FATE!
SLYNX
SCARNELL
GRABBIT
LEDGER
LIKE TO BUY THE RIGHTS TO BANDERBOTCH?
MERSEY SLICKERS INC.
IT'S OVERWORK! NOBODY APPRECIATES THE PRESSURE OF BEING ME!
LATER THAT NIGHT..
ONE MORE PRE-CHRISTMAS BOOM AND I CAN GO MULTINATIONAL!
COMPUTERISED LIFT
HALL : ENTER
OFFICE : $
BED : CAPS SHIFT
WAIT TILL THE JAPS SEE MY FIFTH GENERATION MACHINES. I'LL BE BIGGER THAN IBM!
PRESS ANY KEY FOR MORE HOT WATER
I AM THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST! AWAKE SIR CLIVE!
THINK SILICON!
POEMS OF G.M.H
I TAUGHT MYSELF EVERYTHING!
YES, YOU WERE A REAL SWOT THEN.
MUM, HAVE YOU SEEN MY RE313/f ANYWHERE?
RADIO KIT
THOSE WERE THE DAYS!
THE WATCH DIDN'T WORK THOUGH DID IT?
CALL ME UNCLE!
PRESS
CLICK!
CLICK!
CLICK!
I SHOWED THOSE FACELESS BUREAUCRATS WHERE TO STICK THEIR MINUTES!
TECHNOLOGY FOR THE MASSES!
NO ENTRY FOR CLIVE
ZX81
NOW THE GHOST OF THE CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEARS...
THOSE WERE THE DAYS!
COME AND SEE HOW THINGS ARE TODAY!

WHAT ABOUT QUALITY CONTROL?
FORWARD WITH SINCLAIR
SINCLAIR RESEARCH
TRA LA LA!
QL'S
SPECTRUM
POCKET TV'S
METALAB...
IT'S BRAINS THAT COUNT, NOT DOLLARS
E=MC²
£399.95
AI OR BUST
COSMIC MAN!
SALES MUST BE REALLY BOOMING!
NAH, THEY ALL WANT COPIES OF BANDER-BOTCH!
SOFTWARE
MERRY XMAS
MUMMY, IT DOESN'T WORK!
WELL SON, THEY PROMISED IT WOULD BE DELIVERED ON TIME!
SOB! SOB!
WAIL!
WHY BLAME ME? I'm NO WORSE THAN ANYONE ELSE. THINGS WILL BE BETTER IN THE FUTURE, I PROMISE!
BUMP!
SMASH!
CHRISTMAS YET TO COME...
I-SY DONGLE
SPECTRUM
SHOCK
CLIVEMOBILE SALES
THIS IS WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR YOU!
THE WORLD'S FIRST INTELLIGENT COMPUTER
EXPLODE!
Sinclair
DOWN WITH CLIVE
GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK
DOWN WITH CLIVE
WE WANT REFUNDS
DAILY SMEAR
SINCLAIR KNIGHTHOOD REVOKED
WAKE!
REAL KEYBOARDS FOR EVERYBODY! HAVE A FREE SPECTRUM+! MERRY CHRISTMAS!
TOSS
WHAT A LOVELY STORY! NOW LET'S PLAY THIS NEW GAME YOU BOUGHT ME BUTCH
SENTIMENTAL TWIT!
BANDERBOTCH
PRESS
AAAARGH!
THE MERSEY CURSE STRIKES AGAIN!
EXPLODE

The computer system that won't give you any arguments at home.

£249
Computer complete with green screen VDU (GT64)

£359
Computer complete with colour monitor (CTM640)

CPC 464 complete with monitor and datacorder

The first low-cost personal computer to be approved by the British Electrotechnical Approvals Board.

It's eight in the evening. The weekly soap is about to start on the box. And you're in the middle of a program.

Either way, there's going to be trouble.

The new CPC464 gets round the problem very neatly.

It comes complete with its own colour monitor or green screen VDU. Yet it costs around half the price of a comparable home micro system.

That's not all. As well as the monitor, the CPC464 includes a built-in cassette data recorder, 64K of RAM (42K available), 32K of ROM, typewriter style keyboard and a very fast extended BASIC.

And it comes complete and ready-to-go. Just plug it in.

High resolution graphics. Stereo sound.

The quality of the graphics on the CPC464 screen beats the micro/domestic TV combination out of sight.

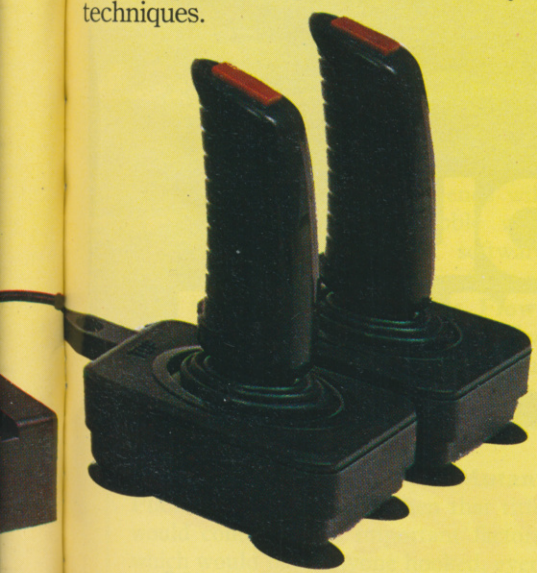
That's because our monitor drives each colour on the screen directly from the computer. Nothing gets in the way of the best possible picture. And you won't have tuning problems.

It sounds good, too. Especially when you feed the 3-voice, 7-octave stereo output through a hi-fi amplifier and speakers.

64K RAM.

With 64K of RAM there's plenty of room for sophisticated and complex programs.

Over 42K is available to users, thanks to the implementation of ROM overlay techniques.



Pound for pound, other micros simply can't match the CPC464's memory.

Amsoft. Exciting software range.

Arcade games, educational programs and business applications are all designed to utilise the CPC464's impressive graphics, sound and processing abilities.

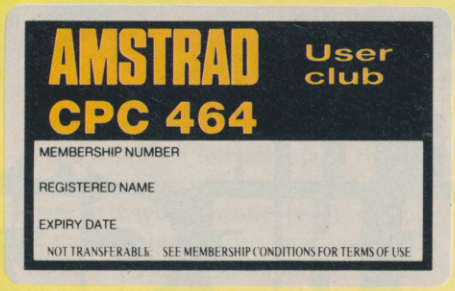
A rapidly expanding range of programs is already available. High quality software that takes advantage of the CPC464's high specification and speed-loading capability. Which means even complex programs can be loaded quickly.

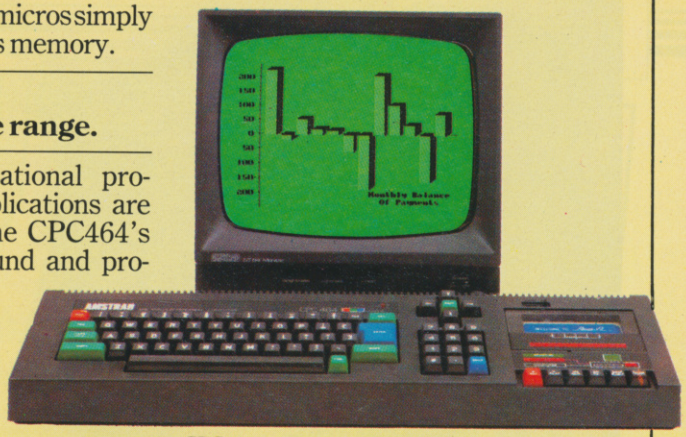
Amstrad. Join the Club.

The CPC464 User Club is run by Amsoft, our software division, which provides software, peripherals and publications for members.

As a member, you'll enjoy immediate benefits like the privilege card, Club binder, regular magazine, competitions for valuable prizes and contact with other Amstrad users.

Whether you're a games fanatic or interested in serious commercial applications, you'll want to join the Club.





CPC464 green screen VDU (GT64)

Green screen VDU.

Perfect for data management with high resolution screen, 80 column text display and up to 8 text windows.

An optional power supply and modulator (MP-1) is available for use with a colour TV.

CPC464. Unlimited scope for expansion.

We're with you all the way. That's why there's a built-in parallel printer interface. A low cost optional disk drive system including CP/M* and LOGO. A joystick port. And the virtually unlimited potential of the Z80 data bus with sideways ROM support.

Optional disk drive DDI-1 including interface CP/M* and LOGO £199.95

Optional 80 column dot matrix printer DMP-1. Offers high performance computerised text processing for only £199.95.

BOOTS COMET Dixons
Menzies RUMBELOWS AND OTHER COMPUTER STORES

AMSTRAD

ONE GREAT IDEA AFTER ANOTHER

*Trade mark Digital Research

I'd like to know more about the incredible CPC464 complete computer system. Please send literature right away.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

To: Amstrad Consumer Electronics plc, Brentwood House, 169 King's Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4EF. Tel: Brentwood (0277) 228888.

SU 1

Available for B.B.C. Model "B", Electron, Spectrum and Commodore 64. Espionage is available from all leading High Street Stores and quality Computer Games Specialists.

price **£8.95**

Retailers contact Mr. Len Fisher on our telephone hot-line (0642) 227223.

Espionage

MODULAR RESOURCES LIMITED

MR

A GAME OF INTRIGUE & SKILL IN THE OIL BUSINESS.

All in the name of the game

Anton Seedy gives some xtra tipz for uninspired programs

EVERY SINCLAIR USER must have read, again and again, articles on how to write a winning computer program and has waded through pages of useful tips on ideas and formatting. By now we all have our favourite machine code sub-routines together with the realisation that practically any game with a black background looks good. Just imagine how bilious and flat-looking games would be if space was cyan. Black has the illusion of depth, but not as much depth as the minds of those who write the blurbs and titles of the latest software.

As your average micro user, I have only realised recently what all my own programs have lacked. It is something that I have never read in any manual, book or magazine and now that I can see where I have been going wrong, I wish to share my new-found knowledge with others whose programs, like mine, will now take on a new dimension. The fact is, it is all in the title.

Firstly, no matter how good or exciting your own programs are, if you have called them **Plane Attack, Frog Hops** or **People from Space** then forget it. Names that clearly indicate what is to be expected are a no-no. Friends will not be inspired if you bubble with excitement over your latest software masterpiece and then they sit in front of a TV screen displaying the title, **Flower Identification.** No matter how swift the code or how smooth the superb graphics may be, the title will have the player reaching for the exit key in no time.

Now, if you had called it **Mutant Plants from Planet X** then that title would contain three important factors which would have anyone hooked, even before they had pressed the start key.

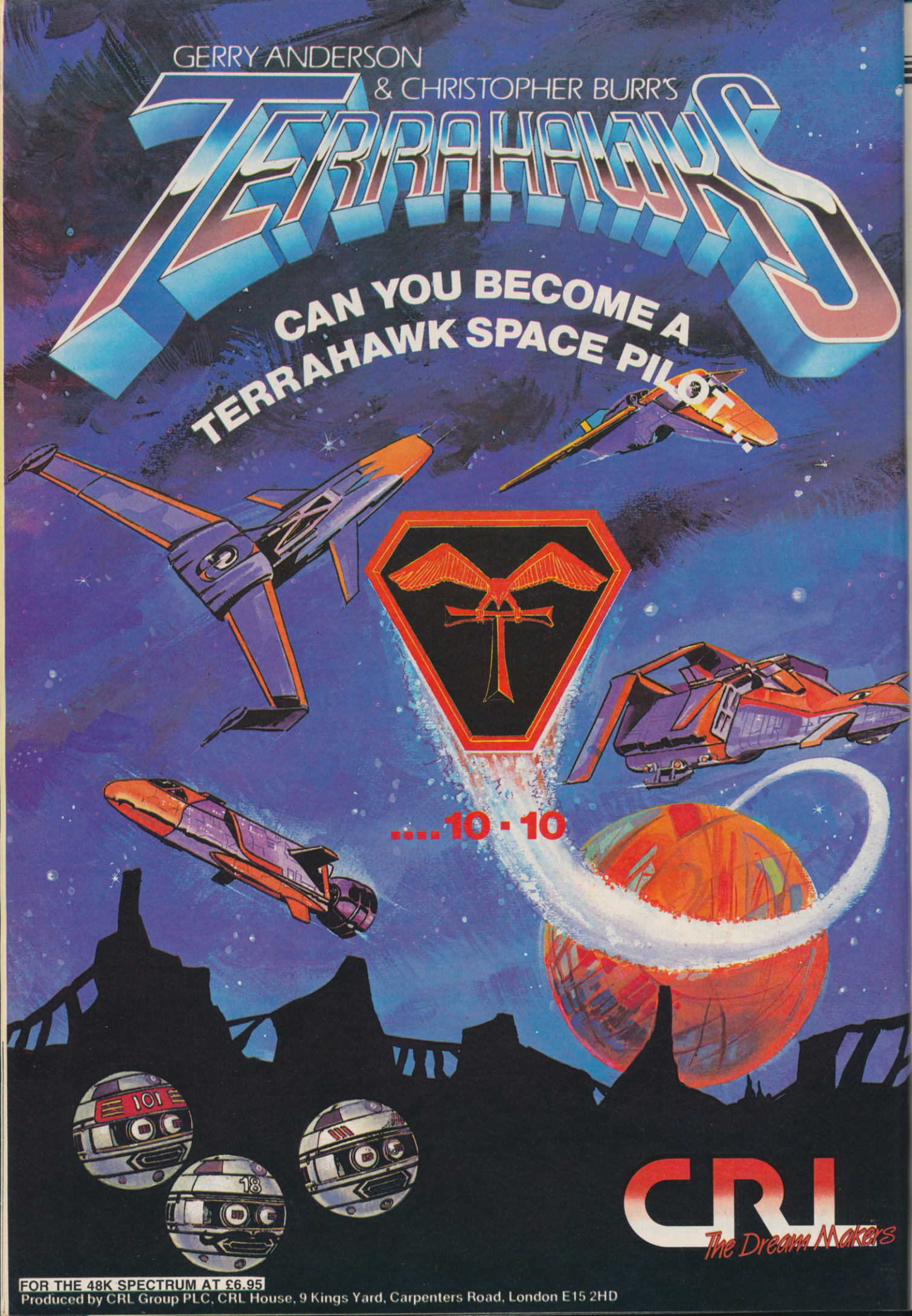
Let us examine those three factors. To begin with, the word Mutant. That is a godsend. Not only does it fill the mind with dread and a natural desire to destroy, but because an object is mutant it does not have to look much like what it was supposed to resemble in the first place. Nothing is more soul destroying than to have someone point at your hours-to-design sprite and say with mirth, "What's that supposed to be?" The word mutant opens players' minds to expect and accept any blob of colour that zips across the screen as quite possibly a mutant manifestation of whatever was in the title.

The word From. Simple logic tells us that if something is from somewhere then it obviously does not belong where it is now. That too will make the player want to send it back or destroy it. The word plays on people's natural prejudices and fear of the unknown.

The letter X. Considering how few words in the English language start or contain the letter X, or Z for that matter, it is nice to see those two previously under-used letters enjoying a renaissance. The motor trade would be lost without them, as the inclusion of the letter X in the name seems to go hand-in-hand with any production car that has the addition of a couple of spot lights and a thousand pounds. Whatever happened to GT?

Z and X seem to have a mystery surrounding them. What is it about them that has a whole range of computers in their grip? Put X or Z in a title, or both, and even the most mudane software gets looked at. Why has no-one marketed a game called **Mutant Zs**

continued on page 83



FOR THE 48K SPECTRUM AT £6.95
Produced by CRL Group PLC, CRL House, 9 Kings Yard, Carpenters Road, London E15 2HD

continued from page 81

from X? The title alone would sell thousands.

Another secret ingredient for a good title is bad spelling, or a name which seems so impossible to pronounce that anyone seeing it spends the rest of the day thinking about how to say it. That will result in the program being bought out of sheer curiosity.

If a game idea is a direct lift from somewhere else, then a change of name is essential, and the more devious the better. What is the Latin for frog? Why frogs, even? Surely newts, fieldmice and hedgehogs have a need to travel. Hedgehoz. . . now there is an idea.

After you have settled on the title, you must next set the scene. Do not boldly state "When the question mark flashes across the screen, press any key to stop it, and check your reaction speed". Say something imaginative such as: "As you peer hopelessly into the utter blackness of outer space your blood runs cold when you consider the almost certain fate that awaits you. Out there are the creatures which will show no mercy towards your mortal life if by chance they should stumble upon your crippled Z7 Starblaster XXX Space Ship. Those Mutant Insectoid aliens from the far distant unknown galaxy Z have pursued you through countless battles, and now, battle-scarred and weary of the fight, you prepare to face the last and decisive encounter.

"At your fingertips, on the vast weapons console set before you, are the controls which operate your Space Lasers, Photon Cannon, and Insectoidcide Spray Guns. Yet your heart is filled with dread as the controls fail to respond to your efforts to rekindle a spark of life in the flight navigation and weapons system computer.

"Suddenly you remember that your tractor beam facility still functions. You wait until an alien comes into view so you can stop it in its quest to extinguish your own life force.

"Can you do it in time?. . . When a Mutant Insectoid flashes across the screen, press any key to stop it and check your reaction speed."

The game is just as puerile as before, but a little expanding of the truth makes it sound a whole lot more exciting, and a bit of imagination never hurt anyone.

How to relate boring program graphics to spectacular fanciful cassette covers without the use of mind-bending drugs, will be the subject of a future lesson.

EVERY DAY IS CHRISTMAS DAY WITH 'SPECIAL DELIVERY' FROM CREATIVE SPARKS

Make this Christmas really special with this delightful new computer game.

The ideal present to add to any software collection.

Available for Atari 32K, Spectrum 48K, Commodore 64.

CREATIVE SPARKS

COMPUTER CONNECTIONS

EVERY PROGRAMMER HAS THE POTENTIAL TO EARN IN EXCESS OF £10,000 WITH US THIS YEAR

Due to expansion in Product Activity, we are in a position to offer unique opportunities to competent programmers. To ascertain if you can fulfill our requirements, simply answer the following questions.

1.	*ARE YOU A COMPUTER PROGRAMMER?*	YES NO
2.	*DO YOU WISH TO HAVE YOUR PROGRAMS PUBLISHED BY A SOFTWARE HOUSE WITH A MAJOR MARKET SHARE IN YOUR PARTICULAR FIELD?*	YES NO
3.	*DO YOU SEEK PROFESSIONAL ADVICE, BOTH COMMERCIAL AND TECHNICAL?*	YES NO
4.	*DO YOU WISH TO AVOID THE COMPLICATED PROCEDURE OF NEGOTIATING FOR CONTRACTS WITH PUBLISHERS?*	YES NO
5.	*WOULD YOU ACCEPT SPECIFIC CONVERSION WORK, THAT WE CAN OFFER YOU?*	YES NO
6.	*ARE YOU UNHAPPY WITH THE MARKETING YOUR PROGRAMS ARE RECEIVING?*	YES NO

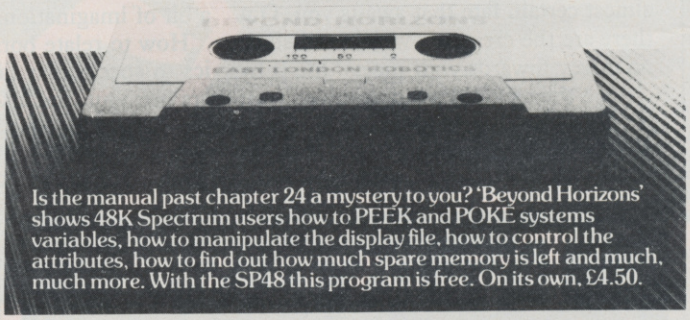
If you have answered YES to question 1 and at least one other question and you are not already "rolling" in it, then contact us now.
The company has strong connections in the computer industry with such names as K-Tel and Quicksilva in our portfolios. During the two years we have been in operation, we have gained the confidence of numerous professional programmers.
We are also interested in aspiring programmers, young or old, who require professional help and guidance. Our FREE services include practical advice and ideas designed to improve your programming skills and overall results.

For further details of how Computer Connections can successfully market and develop your ideas, please write with brief personal details and if possible samples of previous work to:-
The Technical Director, Computer Connections, Barmor House, 70 Rhodes Avenue, Pleckgate, Blackburn, Lancashire BB1 8NP.

COMPUTER CONNECTIONS
CONNECTING YOU WITH TOMORROWS WORLD TODAY

Ask for our products at your local computer shop

Extend your 16k Spectrum to 48k for just £27·00. And get a Free program worth £4·50 into the bargain.



Is the manual past chapter 24 a mystery to you? 'Beyond Horizons' shows 48K Spectrum users how to PEEK and POKE systems variables, how to manipulate the display file, how to control the attributes, how to find out how much spare memory is left and much, much more. With the SP48 this program is free. On its own, £4.50.

SP48B, 32k Memory Extension with Program — £27

The SP48 simply plugs into the sockets provided by Sinclair inside your Spectrum and turns your 16k machine into an absolutely standard 48k ready to run 48k programs.

The SP48 fits Issue 2 and Issue 3 Spectrums. Full step-by-step instructions are provided. Fitting is easy and there is no soldering.

The SP48 carries our full warranty and all our customers enjoy the benefits of our renowned product support.

And you get a free copy of Beyond Horizons, and educational program which has already enlightened thousands of 48k Spectrum owners about the inner workings of their computers.

48/80 FORTH

This compiler and editor is fast becoming recognised as the most professional and highest quality implementation of the FORTH language on the Spectrum. FORTH gives you the speed of machine code without the tedium of machine-code programming.

All the Spectrum's excellent graphics commands are retained including DRAW, PLOT and CIRCLE. Real arcade quality sounds can be produced using BEEP.

More advanced FORTH programmers will find that 48/80 FORTH provides a complete implementation of FIG-FORTH, including the sophistications of BUILDS, DOES and CODE.

Each 48/80 FORTH cassette includes a separate FORTH editor which uses part of RAM as if it were disk. The 48K Spectrum allows a 16k RAM 'disk', while leaving nearly 20k of dictionary space. A comprehensive user-manual is also included, which covers both compiler and editor, and has a lucid beginners introduction.

Extensions to 48/80 FORTH will shortly be available to existing customers at a nominal charge. These will include floating point arithmetic, and microdrive handling.

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME — Are you on our trade/export mailing list?

All products on this order form are in stock. Same day dispatch for phoned Access and Visa orders.

To East London Robotics Ltd; Please send by return (tick items required)

☐ SP48B (for Spectrum Issues 2 or 3) £27 _____

☐ BEYOND HORIZONS (48k) £4.50 _____

☐ 48/80 FORTH (48k or 80k) £14.95 _____

Postage 0.65p. I enclose a cheque/PO for _____ My Access/Visa No. is

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Name _____

Address _____

SU 12

East London Robotics Limited, St. Nicholas House, The Mount Guildford, Surrey GU2 5HN.

Orders and special enquiries Guildford (0483) 505605

Telex 859428 (Trade only)

EAST LONDON ROBOTICS

One of America's most popular games

THE ULTIMATE IN BATTLE ACTION...

BEACH-HEAD™

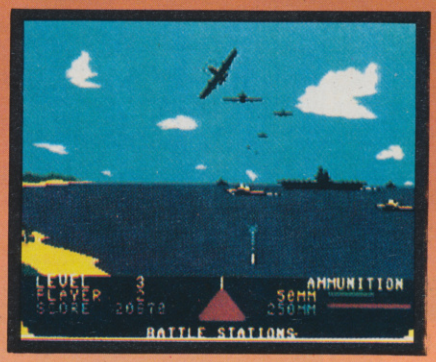
SPECTRUM 48k

- Incredible 3-D Graphics
- Unbelievable Sound Effects
- Unique Games Concept
- Multiple Screens
- High Resolution Scenario
- 100% Machine Language

THE FIRST 64 GAME TO REACH No.1 IN THE CHARTS need we say more?

It's a unique arcade experience in sound and vision, and a stunning display of Spectrum capabilities.

Another quality product from ***ACCESS*** Software.



NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE 48k SPECTRUM **£7·95**

★ ★

THE ULTIMATE IN AMERICAN SOFTWARE FOR YOU ON U.S. GOLD

U.S. Gold is stocked by all leading computer stores including: Boots WHSMITH

DEALERS! For information on how to become a U.S. Gold Stockist write to: Centresoft Ltd., Unit 24, Tipton Trading Estate, Bloomfield Road, Tipton, West Midlands DY4 9AH. Telephone: 021-520 7591. Overseas enquiries welcome.

U.S. GOLD

All American Software

Available exclusively from **DEAN ELECTRONICS** the well proven **ALPHACOM 32** Thermal Printer. Includes full interfacing to the **ZX 81** or **SPECTRUM**. Uses the standard Sinclair print commands (COPY, LLIST, PRINT). Quiet, maintenance-free, high-speed operation. Paper £7.00 per box of 5 rolls, each 25m long.

SPECTRUM COMPATIBLE PRINTER

Alphacom 32

This thermal printer, now available in the UK, is the standard printer which has sold in tens of thousands for use with the American version of the ZX81.

£79.95 inc VAT

ADD £2 P&P

DEAN ELECTRONICS LIMITED
Glendale Park Fernbank Road
Ascot Berkshire SL5 8JB
Tel. 0344 885661 Telex 849242

Or from W H Smith, John Menzies, Greens, Laskys, Spectrum Group, Prism, Currys.

Please send me ..... Printer(s) at £81.95 and ..... boxes of paper (5 rolls per box) at £9 per box — all inclusive of post and packing.

Total £ ..... cheque/PO enclosed or debit my Access/Barclay card account No. .....

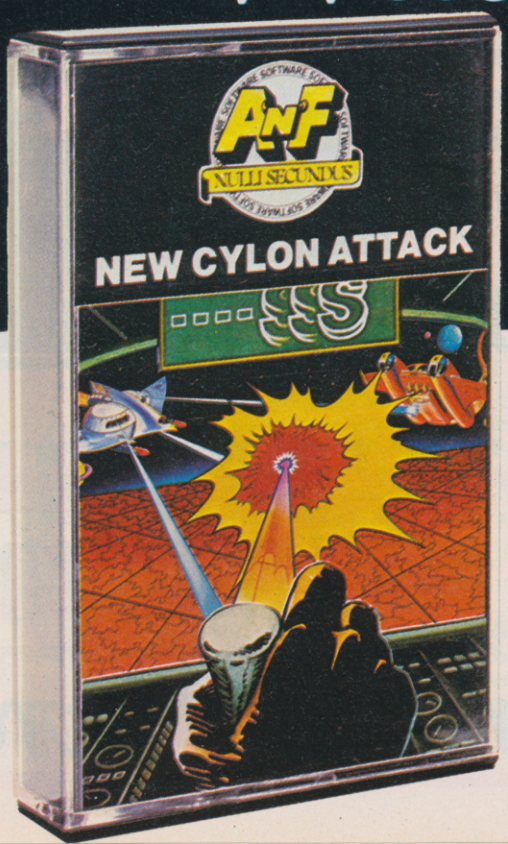
Name and address .....

.....

.....

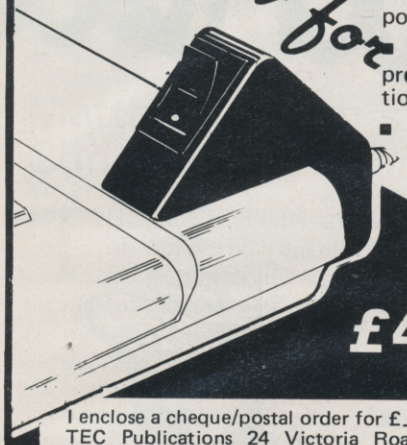
Also available —
Alphacom 42 compatible with Commodore 20/64, BBC Centronics, Atari at **£99.95** (+£2p/p) includes selected interface.

Watch out! The Now in ne



on·off re·set switch for spectrum

Ideal Stocking Filler order now for Christmas



- No more crashing from worn power supply socket
- Does not affect expansion port and use of interfaces
- Just pushes into position does not affect spectrum or power supply lead.
- No need to remove once in position.
- Ergonomically designed — no more fumbling with power supply leads.
- Positive rocker action prevents accidental operation.
- Ideal for re-setting rom cartridge games — saves time when changing microdrive cartridges.

£4.95

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £_____ payable to TEC Publications 24 Victoria Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs.

Name_____

Address_____

_____ u

Dealer Enquiries Welcome. Telephone (0527) 74567

SPECTRUM 48K

VGC 1019

"... Dare you accept this mission?"...

- A massive arcade adventure with a wealth of incredible graphics.
- Game Save facility.
- Flashload rapid loading system.
- 240 uniquely detailed locations, many of which contain hidden surprises and ingredients necessary to complete the game.
- Key control selection.
- Interactive robots.
- Pick up/use object facility.

STRANGELOOP

"Strangeloop is unique, graphically impressive, vast, and devious; in short, brill . . . . Not only all this, but it's cheap too." Popular Computing Weekly 5.9.84

Programmed by Charles Goodwin. £6.95

... not days, not weeks but MONTHS of enjoyment..

FLASHLOAD

...e Cylons are here! ...erve-jangling 3D.

Alien Spaceships (O.K, so what's new!) A'n'F have updated Cylon Attack (a very sought after game) so popular that A'n'F had great difficulties to improve the game, but they have done it. Cylon Attack is now in isometric perspective. Imagine playing new Cylon Attack in isometric perspective (3D). **£5.75**

NEW FOR SPECTRUM

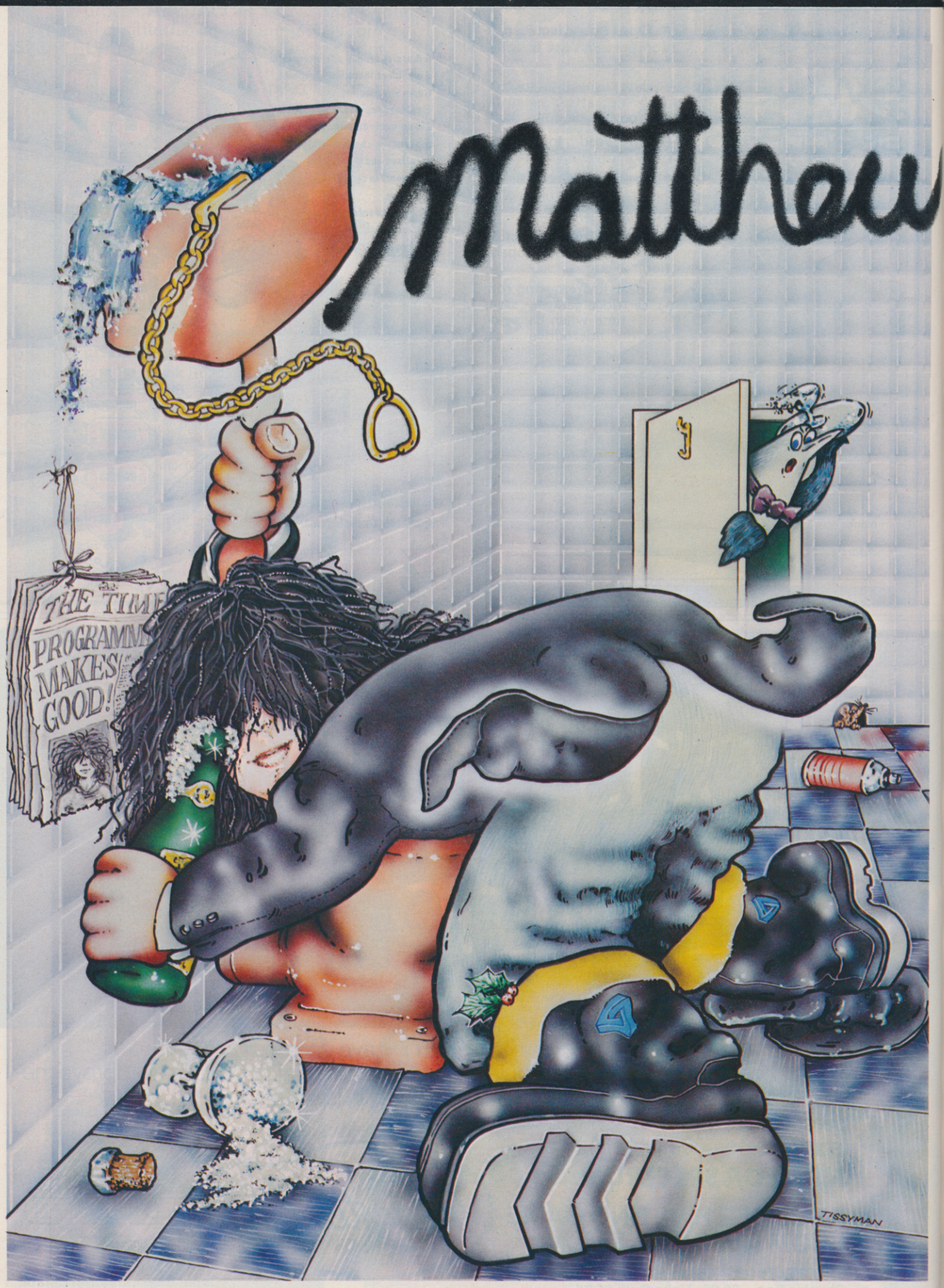
ANOTHER RIVETING GAME FROM A'n'F

SPECTRUM 48k—Other games available: Chuckie Egg—£6.90, Alpha-Beth £5.75

Interested?

A'n'F NULLI SECUNDUS

A&F Software, Unit 8, Canal Side Industrial Estate, Woodbine Street East, Rochdale OL16 5LB Telephone: Rochdale 341111


Matthew
THE TIMEX
PROGRAMME
MAKES IT
GOOD!
TISSYMAN

uncaged

Matthew Smith struck gold with Manic Miner. Chris Bourne beards him in his jet-set pit.

THE RECEPTION area is stylish. Sofas which engulf anybody foolhardy enough to sit upon them. Muted prints of Parisian posters. A small pile of neatly stacked brown paper parcels. Clean carpets. No empty gin bottles.

Matthew Smith, the creator of **Manic Miner** and **Jet Set Willy,** seems light years away. All is order and calm. Where are the chaotic by-products of the mind which created the animated toilet seats, the pirouetting rabbits, the eternal off-licence or the kangaroo above The Vat. The madness is here, somewhere, beneath the surface. But where?

Alan Maton enters, tall and nervous, always in motion. He is the managing director of Software Projects, if such titles have meaning. His looks are faintly reminiscent of a youthful Jimmy Hill. He does not look like a managing director.

Inside his office, chaos begins to surface. It is the usual office chaos of overflowing desks and not enough ashtrays.

"It's not a smokeless zone" says Alan. "I don't think it's even a nuclear-free zone. There should be an ashtray somewhere."

Alan hunts for an ashtray. The coffee machine supplies a substitute in the form of a plastic cup. The coffee machine claims to be unable to produce coffee. "It's lying" says Alan. "How many sugars?"

Alan produces a cassette of Jet Set Willy for the Commodore 64, a new conversion of the program. The latest Software Projects cassettes are manufactured in blue plastic. "Nobody else does them" says Alan. "You have to get them ordered specially." The idea is to prevent piracy of the commercial sort which passes off duplicated cassettes under similar packaging to the original product. Alan rummages about for the finished product. Even the transparent section of tape at the beginning of the cassette has the magic words printed there. You may gather that Software Projects takes piracy seriously.

Alan's sense of humour becomes more overt as the conversation continues. Liverpool people are notorious for their sense of humour. It is a process of acclimatisation, of course. If reporters were directly confronted with Matthew Smith there might be trouble.

Eventually, Alan decides that the time has come. "Let's go and see if they've cleaned the straw out of Matthew's cage" he says.

Matthew Smith lives in the zoo, along with the seven other contract programmers employed by Software Projects. The zoo is an area of the building set aside for the programmers. It is not at all plush, quite unlike the reception area. To reach it you must climb a concrete staircase, and then wait for someone to unlock the door. Alan has a key, of course. The animals respect him.

If Alan is the Head Keeper, Matthew is the star exhibit, the money-spinner. He looks up from a conversation with two other inmates as Alan approaches. Alan explains about the interview.

'Do you want to do the interview?' asks Alan.

'No' says Matthew, tossing back his head and laughing, his long black hair rearranging itself to hang down in the new position. He doesn't really mean it.

Matthew was born in Penge, in Surrey, that butt of a hundred jokes about suburban life. When he was seven his family moved to Wallasey. He attended the local comprehensive, Mosslands on the Marsh. He learned nothing about computers, and left at sixteen.

His first computer was a Christmas present in 1979, when he was a mere stripling of twelve or thirteen. "It was a 4K TRS-80. I had been asking for one every day for six months, because I wanted to take it to bits to find out how it worked. I was very into electronics."

Truth to tell, he looks today as if he was once into electronics. His lank hair hangs down to his collarbone. He wears a white, evidently drip-dry, nylon shirt and indeterminate trousers. He has no socks, just a pair of heavy sandals. He is clearly a one-time electrician. Or an off-duty journalist.

"I didn't take it to bits because it already worked quite well," says Matthew. "I learned Level One Basic on it, which was no use for anything at all. I started learning machine code. It was tough. There were virtually no books at all, except a really heavy one by Rodney Zaks."

Having discovered the delights of Level One 'Useless' Basic he gave up writing arcade games. "It was two years before I got anything out of it. The first games were shoot-em-up games. That was what everybody played then."

The break came in a shop. The local Tandy shop played host to teenagers on a Saturday morning in those days, encouraging them to come in and program or play with the computers. It was fun for the kids, and good publicity for Tandy, who could demonstrate that 'even' children could program their machines.

"People say software houses in Liverpool are to do with unemployment," says Alan. "It's not true. It's to do with people. Like the Tandy store, and Micro-Digital, getting people in there hacking away. Without them there wouldn't have been much in the Liverpool area."

Liverpool is indeed a sort of Silicon Valley of software houses, with Software Projects, Bug-Byte, the now defunct Imagine, Voyager and even personnel from companies not based in Liverpool, such as Ocean Software. Hit

continued on page 90

continued from page 89

Squad readers will be familiar with Steve Kelly, Chris Urquart and Mike Singleton, all Liverpudlians.

Matthew knew a friend who frequented the Tandy shop, Chris Cannon, now a Software Projects programmer. Chris Cannon knew Eugene Evans, who was writing programs for Bug-Byte. Eugene was later to become the star programme at Imagine.

"Chris managed to con one of the new-fangled Spectrums out of Bug-Byte," says Matthew who, unable to afford a Spectrum, asked for one on loan too and said he would write a game. He showed the company what he had done on the TRS 80 and was offered a freelance contract for three games. The first was **Styx.**

"Trouble was, I ran out of memory halfway through. It was only a 16K Spectrum. That's why there are lots of empty gaps in the game. It was a shoot-em-up game loosely based on Tutankhamun. I wrote it on the Tandy for the Spectrum, and wrote a routine to make a Spectrum read Tandy tapes. I kept dreaming of a disc drive."

Sick humour: "The animated toilet seats were my brother's idea. He was only three at the time."

Thus the Manic Miner legend was born. Alan Maton, then despatch manager for Bug-Byte, wanted a game similar in concept to **Donkey Kong,** which had been an enormous success in amusement arcades. Matthew suggested a game with eight or maybe even 16 screens. Such an arcade game had not been attempted before, not with fixed layout screens. "The name was Alan's," says Matthew. "Eugene said 'I don't think it will work,' which proves what he knows."

Matthew got to work on Manic Miner, using a Model III Tandy, with colour and sound. "I did 16 screens, and then worked out a way of adding another four. It was finished in August 1983." The game used core code routines for most of the basic action, but special routines were introduced for particular events on each screen. "It upset the people trying to do a conversion to another machine," says Matthew. "People working on the Solar Power Generator become sick."

Yes. Sick. Matthew's games are distinctive for their sense of humour.

"It started with a skit on Eugene Evans," says Matthew, reclining on his yellow foam mattress and smiling benevolently at the thought of Eugene. "The animated toilet seats were my little brother's idea. He wanted toilet seats in the game." Anthony Smith was three at the time.

Matthew's modesty is disturbing. Is that all there is to it, a few ideas borrowed from elsewhere? "No. I was fed up with little green monsters."

Alan decided to leave Bug Byte and set up on his own account. For six weeks he ran Acme, part of the Creative Technology Group set up by Imagine overlord Bruce Everiss. He still receives letters from lawyers as to who owned what and who was paid what. "I was only there for six weeks," moans Alan, plaintively.

Matthew also wanted to leave Bug Byte. According to him, there was a small matter of royalties owing. "I would have been quite happy to leave Manic Miner with them but they bent the contract," he says. Alan explains. "The royalties were to be paid for the duplication of cassettes, not their sale. The contract was only a few sentences. They were almost verbal agreements in those days."

"They ran up a huge debt," says Matthew. "It was £25,000 at one time. I kept asking for some of it. Whenever I called in they either fobbed me off or refused to see me. Eventually we agreed to cancel the agreement. I had sold Styx to them but they only had a licence to produce Manic Miner, which I cancelled."

Whatever the rights or wrongs of the business, and business in Liverpool certainly seems unnecessarily complicated, Smith joined up with Alan Maton and his wife Soo to found Software Projects. Liverpool entrepreneur Tommy Barton joined them and later Colin Stokes moved over from Imagine, following the notorious bugging incident in which his telephone was tapped.

Alan is anxious to dispel ideas that Liverpool is a sort of Silicon Dallas. "It's a very friendly industry. There are no hard feelings between me and Tony Badon at Bug Byte, for instance. As a matter of fact, we're having a meal together. We're good friends."

Matthew settles back and talks about Jet Set Willy. Jet Set Willy is said to be the biggest selling computer game in Britain.

Work on Jet Set Willy began even before Matthew had left Bug-Byte. He does not like giving away many of his programming secrets, but it will be a surprise to some to learn that the music, which plays continuously throughout the game, does not use an interrupt.

"The first instruction in the program is 'disable all interrupts' " he claims. "It's just move-a-tiny-little-bit, BEEP-a-tiny-little-bit. Have you noticed, the more lives you lose, the worse the music gets?" Few will have noticed. The music is unutterably disgusting anyway, a maniac, stunted version of *If I Were A Rich Man,* even worse than the original.

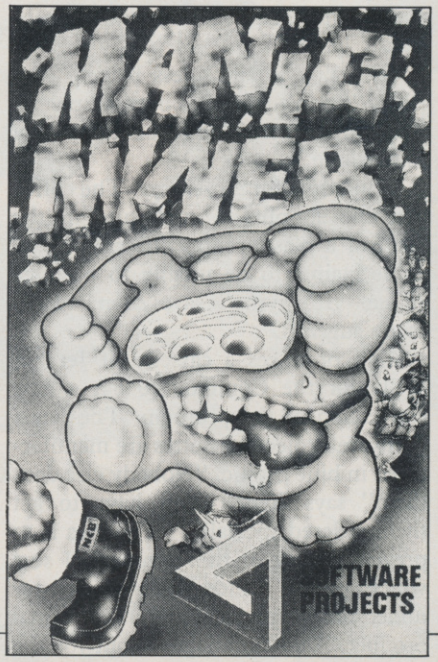
Bugs crept into the game, because of the pressure from distributors and retailers for the new game. That is the reason for the secrecy surrounding the third and final part of the trilogy.

Bugs include the double score for some of the objects and the major problem which relocates quantities of monsters after a player has passed through the Attic. Software Projects originally announced that this was a deliberate ploy to make the return journey through the house much more difficult. "Great, isn't it?" grins Alan. "There's no such thing as a bug in a game."

The humour became wilder. Some of the names for the rooms are obscure to the point of perversity. Was it true that 'We must perform a Quirkafleeg' derives from a cartoon in that comic beloved of hippies, *The Furry Freak Brothers?* "Yes" says Matthew. "I've been reading those comics for years, Furry Freak, and *Fat Freddy's Cat.* So does Alan."

"You told me it was a Norwegian Folk Dance," says Alan, accusingly. He

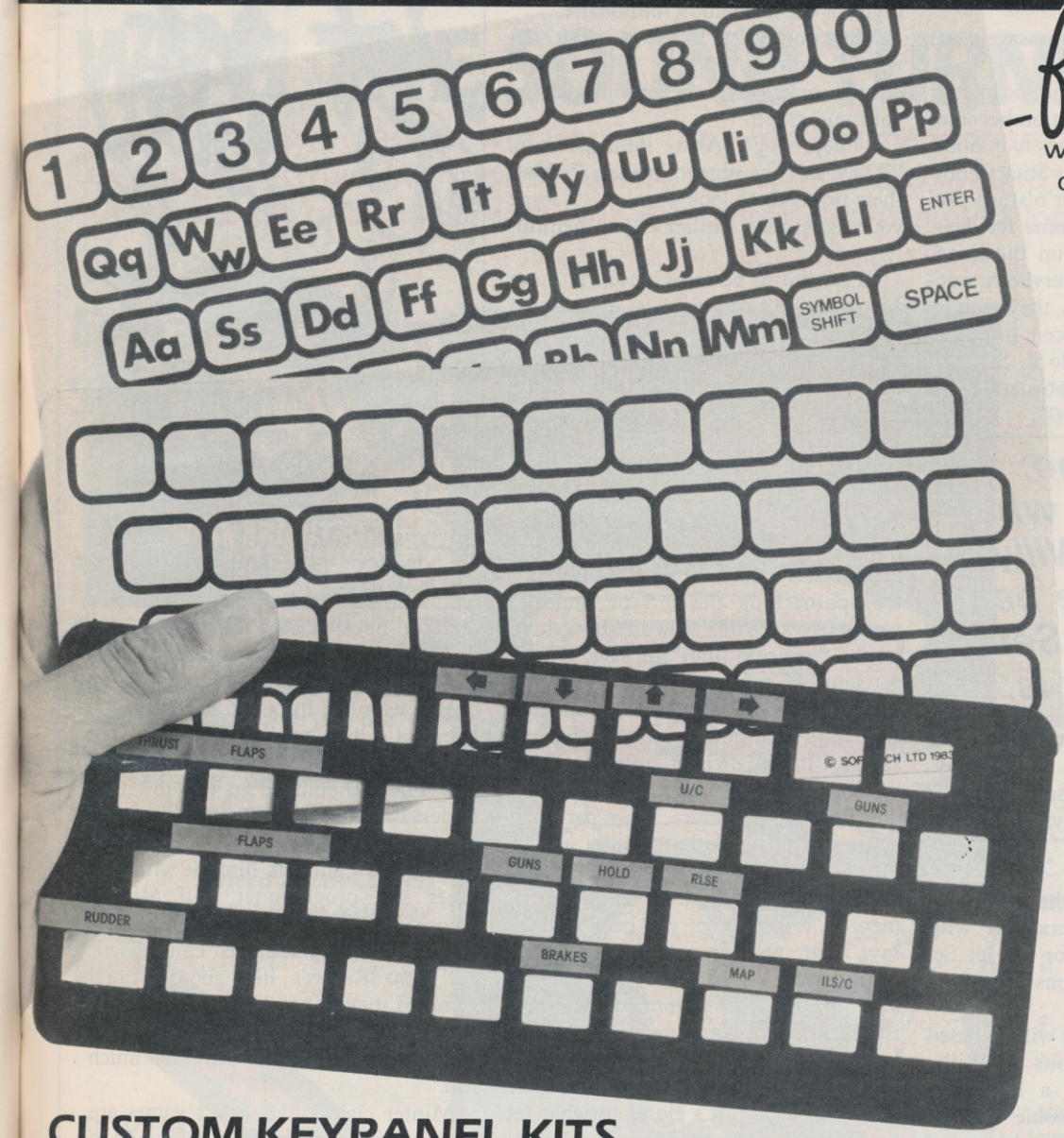
continued on page 92



HELP IS AT HAND

from Softeach

Well known for quality and value with our accessory products–you can be sure of something special when we apply our 20+ years experience in business systems to home computer software . . . coming soon!



EARLY LEARNERS KEYPANEL KIT

NEW for Beginners

These flexible printed overlays are mounted on individual locating frames and produce clear and simple keyboards for young users.

The kit comes in a clear plastic storage wallet and contains a complete range of keyboards, printed in a large clear typeface. (Lower case, upper case, upper + lower, blank key outlines and a blank panel for you to draw on). That's a total of six Keypanels in each kit.

PRICE £2.95

AVAILABLE FROM **WHSMITH**

CUSTOM KEYPANEL KITS

You can assemble a CUSTOM KEYPANEL for all of your programs and create an instant and individual reference to every one.

The ONLY keyboard overlay KIT and with these unique advantages:

Precision die-cut PLASTIC panels.
—Matt-black matches your Spectrum.
—Stays flat and flush to the keyboard.
— Pre-printed and write-on labels for a professional finish. Each Kit contains:
10 Matt-black KEYPANELS.
140 Pre-printed Command labels.
140 Blank write-on labels.
Clear plastic storage wallet.
EXTRA white wipe-clean Keypanel FREE with every kit.

PRICE £3.95

AVAILABLE FROM **WHSMITH**

These SOFTEACH products are available from W H Smith or by return of post from:
SOFTEACH LIMITED 25 College Road Reading Berks
Please send me:
.....Custom Keypanel Kits @ £3.95 plus 35p p&p each.
.....Early Learners Kits @ £2.95 plus 35p p&p each.
(Overseas please add 25% for additional surface mail.)
I enclose a total remittance of £.....cheque/P.O. payable to Softeach Limited.
Name .....
Address .....
.....
Card No .....
Signature .....
Or phone your Credit Card details to 0734-64261

TRADE ENQUIRIES to 0734-64261

EDUCATIONAL ORDERS to MICRO EXPRESS 0533-375757

S O F T E A C H

Keypanel Kits-the first add on for your Spectrum

continued from page 90

does an impression of a massage from the Swedish Prime Minister.

It is indeed the zoo, and no matter how involved the conversation becomes one is inescapably drawn back to it. Some people never leave the zoo. Stuart Fotherington, a punkish leather'n'studs programmer, has not been home for days. "They know their job's on the line," says Alan. "People see everybody wandering around and think, they're idle. But as long as they produce a program, we don't care how they do it. Some of them sleep here. Come on, Stuart, when did you last go home?"

Atic Atac: "Closer to what Jet Set Willy should have been than Jet Set Willy as it is."

Stuart considers. "Saturday," he says, uncertainly. Today is Tuesday. "They've all got keys," says Alan. "I haven't got a key," says Matthew. "Well go and get one," says Alan. Matthew snorts.

Rumours abound that the next game is **Willy Meets the Taxman** with Willy forced to pay up for his Jet Set Willy lifestyle. No decisions have been taken, says Alan.

Certainly the new game will be based around the further exploits of Willy. Matthew wants to have a hardware-based game, involving some sort of extra ROM chip which could be used for programming applications as well as forming an integral part of the new game.

In the meantime the company is releasing a new game, **Lode Runner,** for the Spectrum. It will be another levels and ladders game but with the facility to design your own screens as well as use the ones provided. The graphics are clear but simple, with blocks to be collected and white ladders connecting layers of brickwork. Alan explains how wonderful the game is. It is being marketed under licence from Broederbond, an American software house which has had a great success with the game.

For most people, however, the success of Software Projects centres around Matthew and his unorthodox imagination. He is now the most famous programmer in the country, the embodiment of the otherwise spurious myth of the schoolboy millionaire.

What does it feel like to be a cult? "A what?" frowns Matthew. "Am I? You only become a star when people ask for your autograph."

"They do," Alan informs him. "They ask for signed posters." Matthew pretends to look puzzled. "I forge your signature," explains Alan, helpfully.

"I try not to be conscious of it" says Matthew, self-consciously, eyes glued to the table. "Stardom doesn't really appeal. Too much hassle. I happen to be doing something that sells well. Anything that is really interesting to do should make money."

Alan explains his ideal game is something like MUD, the Essex University Multi-User Dungeon in which many players can participate simultaneously and interact. Matthew says he thinks we are approaching the sort of game he would like to write. "It won't be written on the Spectrum first," he says. "We'll get someone to convert it."

Matthew's lifestyle is experimental. Alan says Matthew has discovered the sixties. "I don't do a lot" says Matthew. "Computing was my only hobby but I don't do that any more. I like partying, getting drunk and falling over a lot." He explains how he went to a nightclub recently dressed in a toga, 'as an experiment'. "Will they let you back again?" says Alan. "Not in a toga," says Matthew darkly.

Unlike many programmers, Matthew is still a fan of computer games. "If I had to be shut in a room with one Spectrum tape it would have to be **Atic Atac**" he says. "It's closer to what Jet Set Willy should have been than Jet Set Willy as it is."

Unusually, Matthew does not entirely approve of games, although he plays and makes a living from them. "I think it is harmful playing games — as well as writing them. Computers are going to have to stop giving out gamma radiation, keyboards have to go. Computers should be totally adaptable machines. I can see them being used — well, in a toothbrush, to keep the bristles at the right angle."

Matthew expands on his view of the future. "Things get hairy when we get machines which are more intelligent than us," he says. "I keep going on to Alan and Tommy when they are planning to take over the world. I want to lead a simple life. I think a lot of people do. The world can't sustain itself. The time comes when we can't all be comfortable and happy and warm and

fed. We have to blow ourselves up or find a way of being contented. There is not enough land. True communists are people who live in communes, villages, tribes. I'd like to live like that, but always with the communications we've got. There should be an end to cities. Cities should have walls around them to keep the city in."

Matthew contrasts himself with that other star programmer, Jeff Minter, whose Grid Wars series for Commodore machines rapidly achieved cult status.

"What I don't like about Minter games is they're not a simulation of any kind of real problem. I'm not into simulated violence. It's not really that much fun."

Minter claims Matthew's games are boring because there is a single route to success. "The single route doesn't present new problems," says Matthew, "but one fixed problem allows it to be a real scorcher. It's bad to encourage violence."

What about the foot that crushes Willy if he loses? Is that a violent image? "No" says Matthew, firmly. "The foot is comedy. Comedy is important to negate violence."

Matthew returns to his work, and we take our leave of the zoo. Alan telephones for a cab. The coffee machine produces one last cup of murky instant. Alan answers a call. "No," he says, "there's nobody here. You'll have to call again in the morning."

"I have to be my own security guard," he jokes, replacing the receiver. "Here's the cab. It should only take fifteen minutes to the station. Nice to have met you. Goodbye."

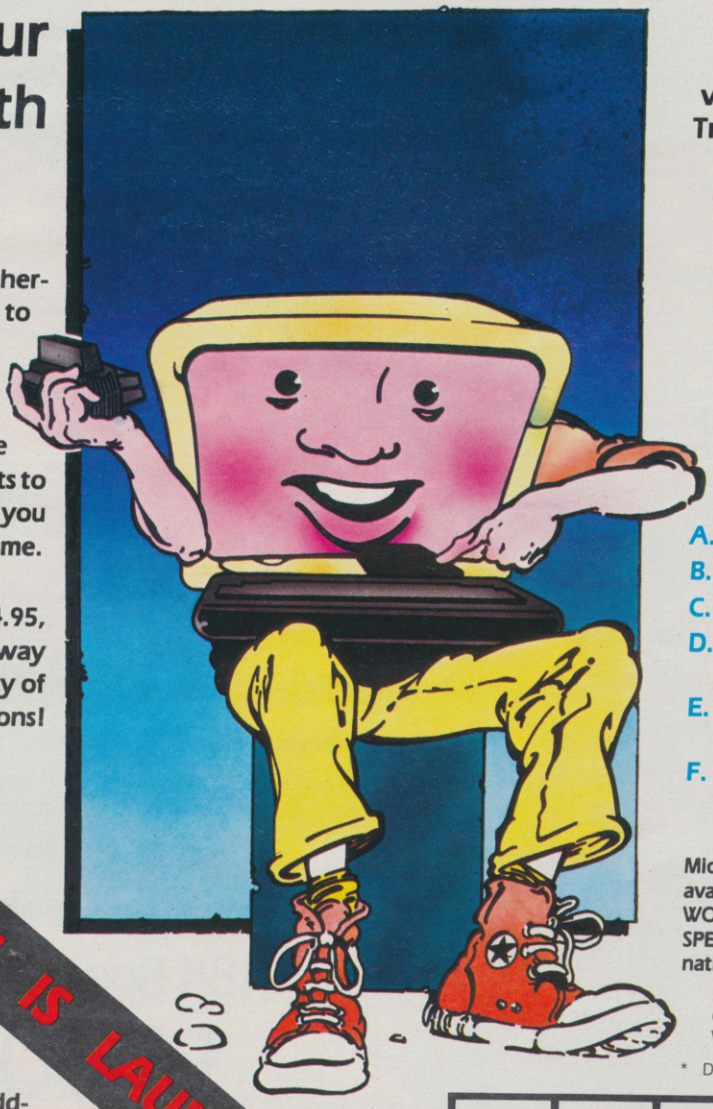
DO YOU WATCH TELEVISION WITH THE SOUND TURNED OFF?

Bring life to your graphics with sound, the needed dimension to games and educational use of the Spectrum. Microspeech is easy to use and allows you to incorporate voices and sound prompts within your software and games. With simple allophones and intonation you can add an extra dimension.

Expand your Spectrum with Microslot!

Microslot is a two-way mother-board elegantly designed to allow you the freedom to incorporate as many add-ons as you wish. The sound construction will give you the scope to add further Microslots to take all the peripherals you require, and all at the same time.

Priced at just £14.95, Microslot is the gateway to flexibility of add-ons!



Software publishers appreciate the need for voice messages and speech. Try some of the top selling games like "LUNAR JETMAN" from Ultimate.

Send off now for details of all the software available with speech!!

A.	Microspeech	£29.95
B.	Microslot	£14.95
C.	Microsource	£44.50
D.	Microspeech & Microslot	£35.50*
E.	Microsource & Microslot	£49.95*
F.	Microsource & Microspeech & Microslot (Bumper Pack)	£79.99*

Microspeech, Microslot & Microsource are available from COMET, W.H. SMITH, BOOTS, WOOLWORTHS, GREENS, JOHN MENZIES, SPECTRUM STORES and good dealers nationwide, or by using the coupon below.

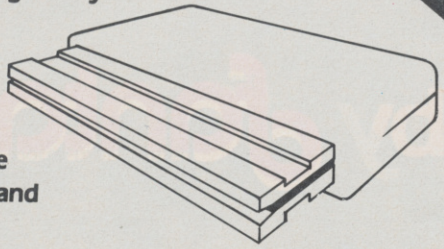
Information on all products can be obtained from: Currah Computor Components Ltd., Hollymount, Wooler Road, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS26 0HA

* D, E, F only available at these prices direct from Currah.

MICROSOURCE IS LAUNCHED!

FORTH, Assembler and Debug to ZX Spectrum

Microsource is Currah's radical new concept in computer add-ons. Microsource allows you to enter Assembler and FORTH source languages directly into BASIC lines and run these separately or layered together in an integrated BASIC / FORTH / Machine Code program. Microsource also features full macro assembly and a comprehensive Debug facility.



At £44.50, Microsource will be an indispensable ally to all those who wish to progress to more advanced languages for the production of ultra fast and highly compact programs.

CURRAH

To: Currah Offer, P.O. Box 1, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE8 1AJ

Please Supply ☐ A at £29.95 ☐ B at £14.95 ☐ C at £44.50
All prices include VAT and P & P ☐ D at £35.50 ☐ E at £49.95 ☐ F at £79.99

Name (please print) .....

Address (please print) .....

..... Postcode .....

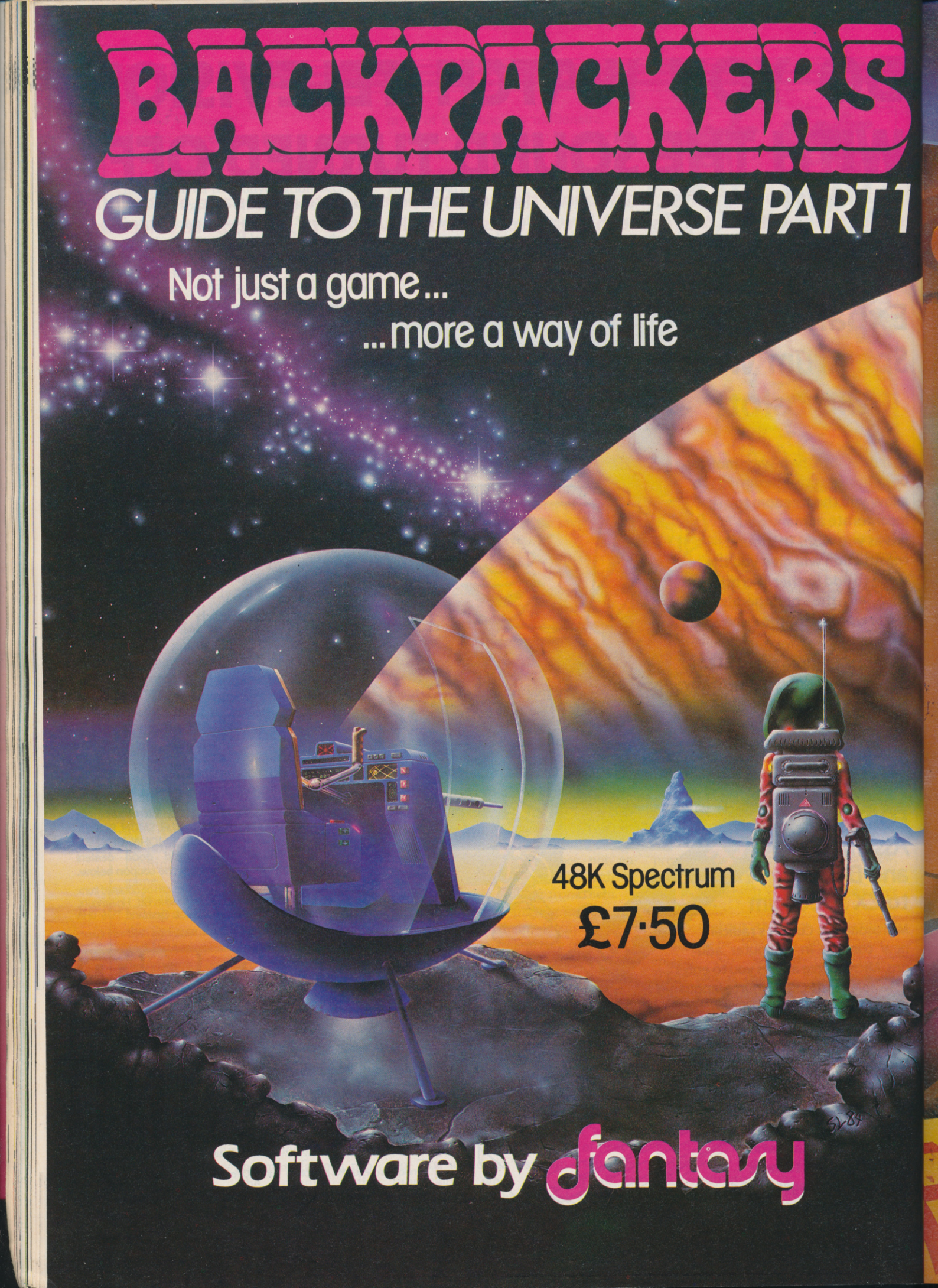
SU3

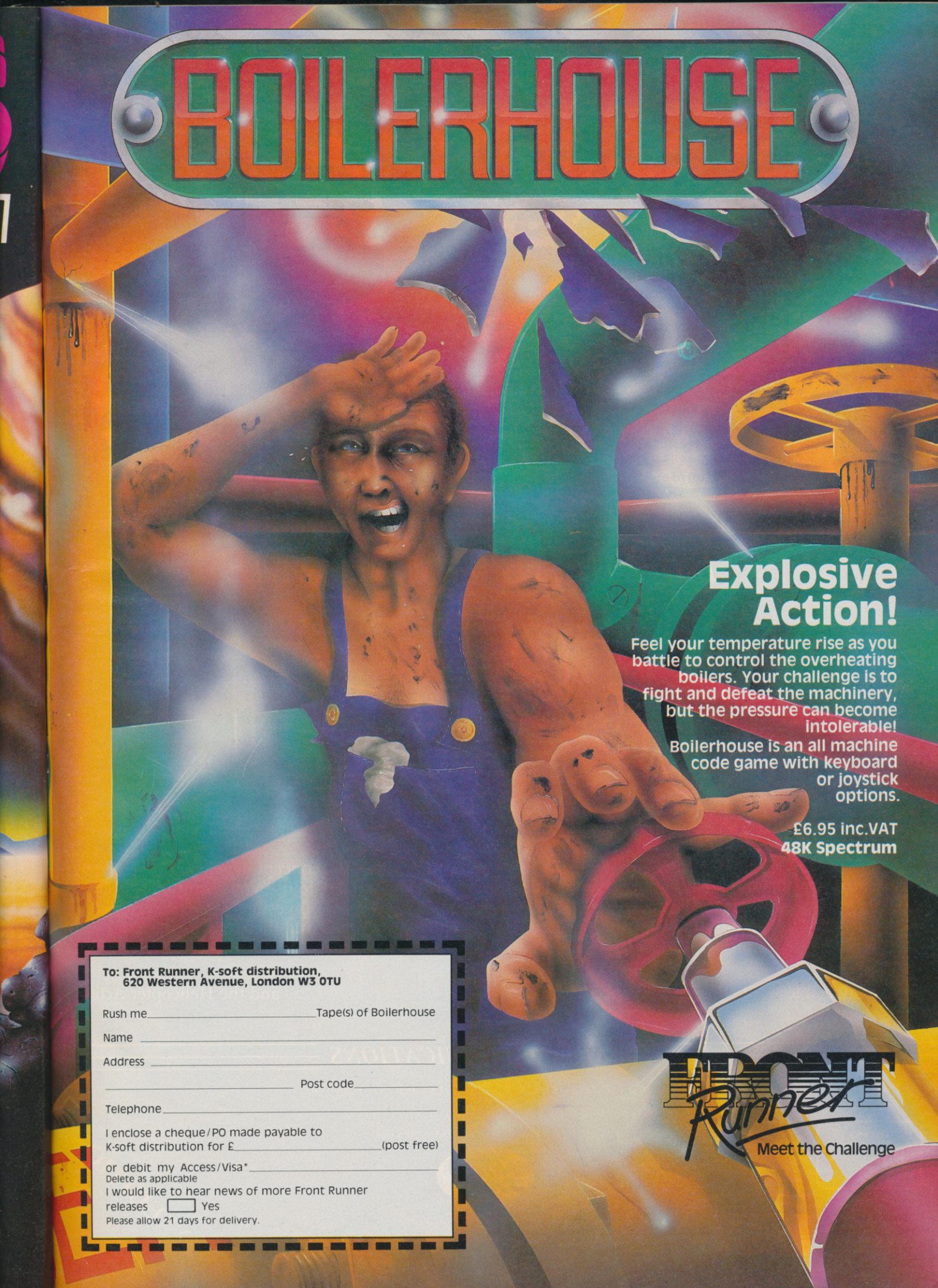
I enclose a cheque/PO payable to 'Currah Offer' value £ .....

or debit my Access/BarclayCard No. ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Cardholder Signature .....

Credit Card Hotline 091 - 482 4683 Please allow 28 days for delivery. Offer valid UK only


BACKPACKERS
GUIDE TO THE UNIVERSE PART 1
Not just a game...
...more a way of life
48K Spectrum
£7·50
Software by fantasy


BOILERHOUSE
Explosive Action!
Feel your temperature rise as you battle to control the overheating boilers. Your challenge is to fight and defeat the machinery, but the pressure can become intolerable!
Boilerhouse is an all machine code game with keyboard or joystick options.
£6.95 inc.VAT
48K Spectrum
To: Front Runner, K-soft distribution,
620 Western Avenue, London W3 0TU
Rush me _____ Tape(s) of Boilerhouse
Name _____
Address _____
_____ Post code _____
Telephone _____
I enclose a cheque/PO made payable to
K-soft distribution for £_____ (post free)
or debit my Access/Visa* _____
Delete as applicable
I would like to hear news of more Front Runner releases ☐ Yes
Please allow 21 days for delivery.
FRONT Runner
Meet the Challenge

SYSTEM 15000

THE REAL TIME GAME

BEAT IT !!

SYSTEM 15000 The different game with the NEW "TOTAL REALISM" concept developed by AVS sets you firmly in the middle of an International conspiracy where you have to use your computer together with SYSTEM 15000 to recover $1,500,000. The game is a 'real time' investigation that realistically captures the excitement of accessing computers by telephone and breaking their codes to obtain vital information.

AVAILABLE NOW — CBM 64-BBC B SPECTRUM 48k

Also available — The No. 1 chart success FLIGHT ZERO-ONE FIVE (VIC20) and the Helicopter Action Game — WHIRLWIND ONE-FIVE (VIC 20)

CRAIG COMMUNICATIONS

P.O. BOX 46 BASINGSTOKE HANTS RG21 1HA PHONE 0256-55462

TELEX 86736 SOTEX G (CRAIG COMMUNICATIONS)

AVAILABLE FROM SELECTED BRANCHES OF

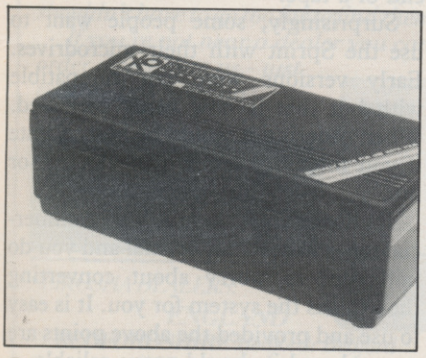
Boots

JOHN LEWIS, ALDERS
AND LEADING COMPUTER STORES

Access

VISA

2ND EDITION



Racing to the tape

Speed, economy or reliability? We take three of the fastest systems out on the track for a test drive.

IT IS NOW just over a year since the introduction of the microdrive, and in that time it has done more to inhibit the serious use of the Spectrum than any other add-on. Before you put pen to paper and write to us, an explanation is perhaps in order.

Users of the BBC, Commodore and other home computers expect to be able to add a fast storage medium — disc, hobbit and so on — to their computer and to be able to buy software in that format. There is an accepted format for both interfaces and recording medium and therefore software houses can develop programs knowing that they will be able to sell them.

The announcement of the microdrive, roughly a year before it actually saw the light of day, inhibited manufacturers from developing a standard, as Kempston had done with its joystick interface. The stories of unreliability, unfounded or not, also inhibited software houses as they could not ensure that any programs sold on cartridge would always work.

Finally, the price, scarcity and difficulty of duplicating microdrive cartridges gave few writers the confidence to market programs on cartridge. At the time of writing the number of programs available on cartridge can be counted on one hand, with a few more that are 'microdrive compatible', and none which were specially written for it other than copiers.

Despite that the microdrive is undoubtedly a remarkable device. It makes available a form of fast storage which many people would otherwise be unable to afford and, within limits, provides a usable system. It is only recently that it has been readily available and so perhaps now it will be accepted.

Because of those problems and delays, other manufacturers felt that they could do better and so there are now many other fast storage devices available, with more due to be released. While some are undoubtedly better, and more expensive, than the microdrive they all share one common problem, and that is that because there are so many different systems it is largely left to the user to convert software to run on them. With the ever present spectre of software piracy few software houses make their programs open to inspection and, due to the fact that most of the systems take up valuable memory space, some programs can not be converted even if you are able to break into them.

Your own programs, however, should be easily convertible; you are unlikely to write Basic programs in excess of 35-40K, and if you are able to write in machine code then you should be able to move it to an unused part of memory. The problem with commercial tapes is that the usual format is to have a Basic loader program which lowers RAMTOP and then loads a screen display followed by some machine code. It is the lowering of RAMTOP which causes the problems.

A BASIC program unusually starts at address 23755 — chapter 24 of the Spectrum manual suggests that you enter CLEAR 23800 (i.e. lower RAMTOP to that address) to see what happens when the computer runs out of memory. In order to be able to enter a short line of Basic you will need about 100-200 bytes of memory, so the minimum address to which you can usefully CLEAR is 24000, giving approximately 100 spare bytes. With the more popular commercial games it is quite common to CLEAR to 24000-25000 and so you can see that there is not much space left. With a program written for the 16K machine it is not uncommon to clear down to 23900. The simple answer is that the less memory the system takes the more programs you will be able to convert.

A good indication of that is the sector size. With microdrive and disc the data is held in blocks known as sectors. Those blocks are loaded into memory by the system one at a time and then moved to where they are required. For example, with microdrive the sectors are 512 bytes long, so you will need the operating system of about 100 bytes plus 512 for the sector and 83 to hold the additional channel information — say, 700 bytes spare or a minimum clear of 24700, more if you want to use two drives.

Another problem may be that of speed. Almost anything is quicker than cassette; a commercial 48K game takes about five minutes to load, but the method of storage will affect the speed. A microdrive uses a continuous loop of tape and so if the sector you want is next on the tape it will be very quick. If it has just passed that sector then the microdrive will have to go all the way round the tape, and so take longer.

A disc, however, normally stores the data in a number of concentric circles, known as tracks, and each track is divided into sectors. As the disc is spun very quickly those sectors are readily available. Overall, the time it takes to find a sector is largely determined by the time it takes to move from track to track.

continued on page 98

Mass Storage

continued from page 97

This can be as little as 3ms, 3/1000 ths of a second.

There is, finally, the problem of reliability. If you are writing your own programs or using the Spectrum for business then the system must be 100 percent reliable. That can only be judged with time and any comment on a new system can therefore only be an educated guess.

The first system looked at was the Challenge Sprint. That is a fairly new system and also the most straightforward. It is, simply, a normal cassette mechanism which has been converted to run the tape at four times the normal speed of 15/16 ips, (inches per second).

A flexible lead plugs into the back of the Spectrum and, on the back of the cassette, there is an extension port. It takes its power from the Spectrum. The Sprint recognises all the normal tape commands, whether used from Basic or code, and therefore is very simple to operate. To load a tape you use the usual LOAD "" command and press play.

The advantage of the system is that you do not have to convert any of your programs. The only programs which it would unable to load would be those which use their own, non-standard, loading routine such as **Halls of the Things,** or those where the time between the sections of program is very important.

The reduction in loading time is good; **Scrabble,** by Psion, which normally takes four minutes and 48 seconds to load, now takes only 1.16 minutes. Saving a straight 64K block took 1.15 minutes.

To have a means of measuring the speed of the different systems the following program has been used:

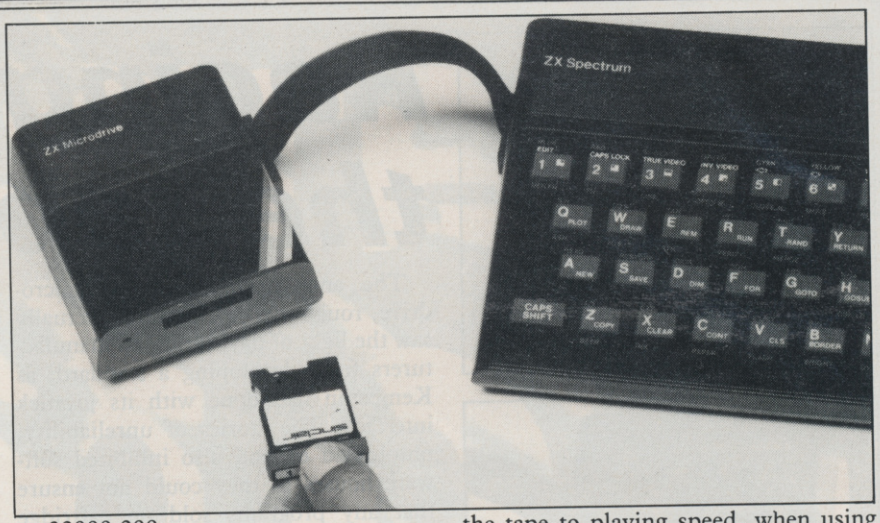
```
10 FOR n=1 TO 30
20 SAVE ("test"+STR$ n) CODE
32000,200
30 NEXT n
```

with line 20 changed as required. When saving with the Sprint it takes 2.36 minutes, and on loading 2.37 minutes.

The disadvantages of the system are largely the same as those at a normal cassette. You cannot control the cassette motor from software and so you cannot load selected programs without correctly positioning the tape by hand, or running through the whole tape. A note must be kept of the tape counter in order to find a program and, due to the speed, that must be very precise.

The cassette does not have any volume or tone controls and so when loading your own programs it is a case of all or nothing — if a program does not load then it is not going to. You cannot then try to load it using a normal cassette recorder without disconnecting the Sprint as it expects all tape commands to relate to itself. All the commercial tapes which were tested, however, loaded without problems.

The only other possible problem is the speed itself. Cassettes are not designed to be played at the speed at which the unit operates and so, despite having a good system which accelerates the tape to playing speed, when using Stop, Fast Forward or Rewind sudden speed changes occur and the tape is liable to stretching. The only way round that would be to only use those commands when you are certain that there is nothing on the tape at that point. It will Autostop from Play at the end of a tape.



Surprisingly, some people want to use the Sprint with their microdrives. Early versions were not compatible with but that is now being corrected. When ordering it would be best to state if you intend to use it with a drive or not.

If all you want to do is load commercial tapes faster than normal and you do not want to worry about converting then this is the system for you. It is easy to use and provided the above points are remembered it should prove reliable.

The Sinclair microdrive has a number of good and bad points but it is the least expensive way of adding a fast storage/random access device to the Spectrum. Sinclair is selling currently a package of Interface 1, microdrive and four software packages for £99.95. The software is **Tasword II** and **Masterfile,** both of which are easily convertible anyway, and **Ant Attack** and **Games Designer** from Quicksilva. An introductory program and spare cartridge are also included.

The amount of space taken up by the operating system, and the increased length of the commands, have caused some users to experience difficulties in converting tape-based programs to run on it. Some games, such as **Jet Set Willy,** are easily convertible while others, such as **Sabre Wulf** or **Scrabble** present difficulties. In some cases it should be possible to modify the Basic loader program, either by standard memory saving techniques — such as

continued on page 101

FOUR AFFORDABLE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FROM DRG...AND WHERE TO GET THEM.

If you want a really outstanding deal on a graphics printer, get along to your local DRG dealer or contact us direct today.

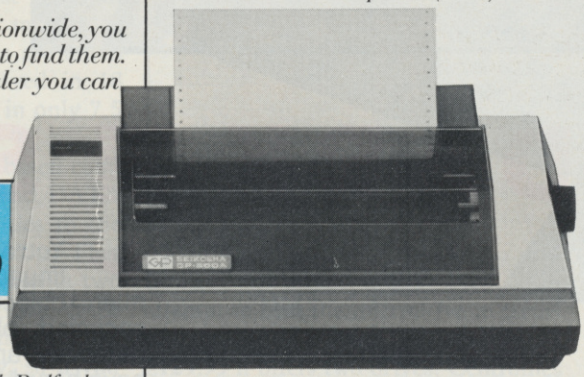
Because right now our dealers can show you four Seikosha dot-matrix, centronics parallel printers whose speed, features, ruggedness and affordability are quite exceptional.

They include the amazing GP700A: the first full-colour matrix printer ever offered at under £350.

They're compatible with most makes of micro - including the BBC and the Spectrum.

And with 34 dealers nationwide, you shouldn't have to go too far to find them.

If you're not near a dealer you can order direct from us - just contact Pat Kelly on 0934 416392.



SEIKOSHA GP500A
Takes pin-fed paper up to 10" wide. 50 cps print speed. **£175.00**

SEIKOSHA DEALERS:

ENGLAND

***BEDFORDSHIRE** Bedford: Bedford Computers. (0234) 215015.*

***BUCKINGHAMSHIRE** High Wycombe: Kingsley Computers. (0494) 449749.*

***CHESHIRE** Frodsham: Northern Computers. (0928) 35110.*

***CUMBRIA** Carlisle: The Computer Shop. (Carlisle) Ltd. (0228) 27710.*

***DEVON** Exeter: Devon Computers Ltd. (0392) 218401.*

***DORSET** Poole: Densham Computers Ltd. (0202) 737493.*

***DURHAM** Darlington: Darlington Computer Shop. (0325) 487478.*

***ESSEX** Harlow: Akhter Instruments. (0279) 443521.*

***GLOUCESTERSHIRE** Cheltenham: The Screen Scene. (0242) 528979.*

***HAMPSHIRE** Portsmouth: Advanced Digital Services. (0705) 823825.*

***HERTFORDSHIRE** Watford: Computer Plus. (0923) 33927.*

***HUMBERSIDE** Hull: The Computer Centre. (Humberside) Ltd. (0482) 26297.*

***LANCASHIRE** Burnley: IMO Computer Centre. (0282) 57411/54299.*
Lancaster: Castle Computers. (0524) 61133.

***LONDON** W.1: Specialist Computer Centre Ltd. 01-935 4150.*
Eltham: The Advanced Technology Centre. 01-859 7696.

***LINCOLNSHIRE** Grantham: Oakleaf Computers. (0476) 76994.*

***MANCHESTER** Sumlock Electronics Services Ltd. 061-834 4233.*

***MERSEYSIDE** Liverpool: Specialist Computer Centre Ltd. 051-236 3499.*

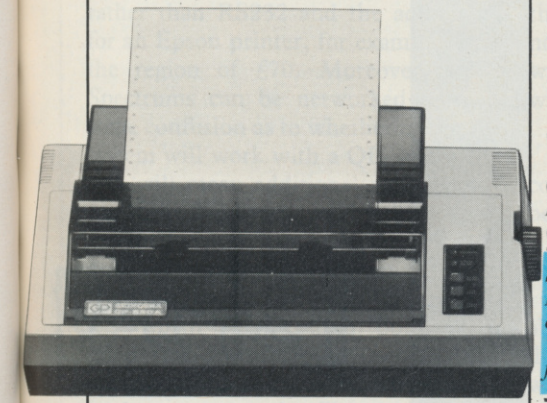
***NORFOLK** Norwich: Sumlock Bondain. (0603) 617083.*

***NOTTINGHAMSHIRE** Nottingham: Computer Market. (0602) 586454.*

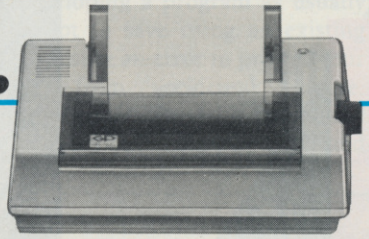
***SALOP** Telford: Computer Village. (0952) 506771.*

***STAFFORDSHIRE** Stoke-on-Trent: Computer Cabin. (0782) 636911.*

***SURREY** Croydon: Visionstore Ltd. 01-681 7539.*
Kingston-upon-Thames: Visionstore Ltd. 01-546 8974.



SEIKOSHA GP550A
Multi-mode printing (including correspondence-quality) at up to 50 cps. Takes pin-fed or friction fed paper up to 10" wide. **£229.95**



SEIKOSHA GP50A
Takes paper up to 5" wide. 40 cps print speed. A separate version, the GP50S is available for the Spectrum. **£99.95**

***SUSSEX** Worthing: Worthing Computer Centre. (0903) 210861.*

***TYNE AND WEAR** Gateshead: H.C.C.S. Associates Ltd. (0632) 821924.*

***WEST MIDLANDS** Birmingham: Specialist Computer Centre Ltd. 021-643 4743.*
Coventry: Coventry Micros. (0203) 58942.

***WEST YORKSHIRE** Bradford: Eltec Computers. (0274) 722512.*
Leeds: Microcell. (0532) 449722.

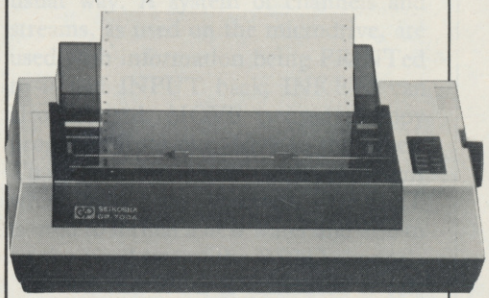
***WILTSHIRE** Trowbridge: Trowbridge Computer Shack. (02214) 57299.*

SCOTLAND

***GLASGOW** Exchange Computers Ltd. 041-424 4242*

WALES

***CLWYD** Abergele: Abergele Computer Centre. (0745) 826234.*



SEIKOSHA GP700A
Gives excellent colour printout in 7 colours and 30 shades in one pass, on pin or friction-fed paper up to 10" wide. Prints text at up to 50 cps. **£349.95**

Please send me more information and an order form for:
GP50A ☐ 50S ☐ 500A ☐ 550A ☐ 700A ☐

Name _____

Address _____

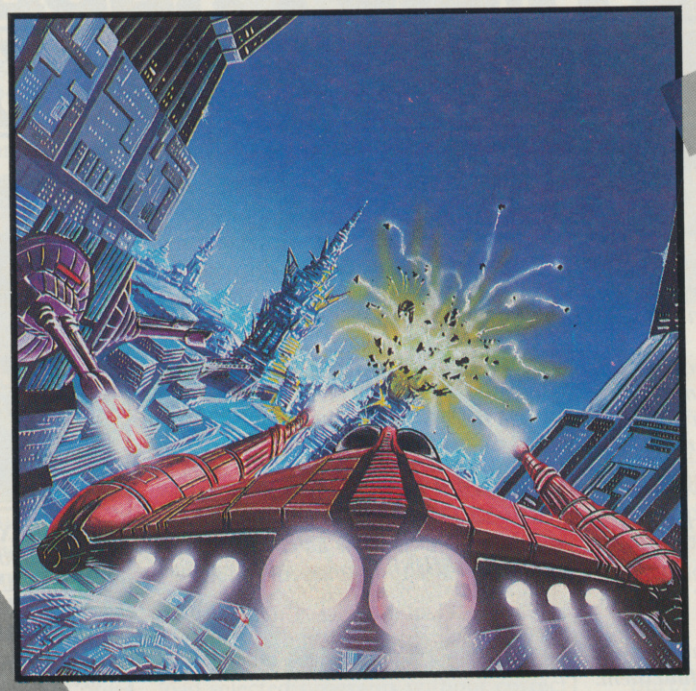
_____

_____ *Postcode* _____

ACCESS VISA *SUS*

SEIKOSHA DRG

DRG Business Systems, Dealer Division, 13/14 Lynx Crescent, Winterstoke Rd, Weston-Super-Mare BS24 9DN. Tel: 0934 416392. Telex: 444761.



DARK STAR

You are flying through a galaxy continually fending off attackers. Your main objective is to land on enemy occupied planets, break through their defences and destroy their bases. You have heard other games described as fast and smooth but this is the game others will be judged by. Game difficulty, Options and Keys are all fully user definable

48k SPECTRUM £7·50 ■

RETURN OF THE THINGS

Halls of the Things* was the first of the arcade adventures. This is the long awaited sequel, taking over from the point where you have escaped from the tower and are looking forward to a rest, no such luck, it's nastier out there than it is in the tower.

48k SPECTRUM £7·50

*Now available for the Amstrad CPC 64 and Commodore 64 **£8·50** ■

GALACTIC PATROL

All alone in the middle of the universe in your powerful spaceship, but you'll not have time to get lonely. Enemy ships will constantly harass you, trying to wear you down with their seemingly endless numbers

48k SPECTRUM £7·50 ■

Design Design

Mail Order enquiries and catalogue of other titles:–
2, Ashton Way, East Herrington, Sunderland SR3 3RX.

Trade enquiries:–
Tel: 061-205 6603

continued from page 98

using VAL or PI/PI to cut down the number of bytes used by numbers — or by loading the Basic in more than one part. If you are able to write your own machine code routines then a system of using the screen as a buffer, moving the Stack Pointer and then a block move will work in most cases.

Each of the cartridges can hold a minimum of 85K of data. That can sometimes be increased by repeatedly formatting it, each Format command taking 24 seconds.

Using the test program given above the microdrive takes 3.42 minutes to save and only 14 seconds to load. If, however, line 10 is changed to:

```
10 FOR n=30 TO 1 STEP -1
```

so that the sectors are not loaded in sequence, it takes 3.15 minutes. Erasing also takes quite a long time as a number of checks are made by the system when that is done. Using the test program with line 20 set to Erase it takes 3.46 minutes. Simpler commands are much quicker, a 64K block is saved in 18 seconds and CAT performs in only 7.5 seconds.

As well as the usual tape based commands for BASIC, CODE and DATA it is also possible to open files to the drive and send information to it. That can be very useful but it presents two problems. Every channel which is opened takes up memory and the data can only be accessed serially, so if you want the last piece of information on the file you have to Read all the way through it. That can be time consuming.

To run a microdrive you also need Interface 1. That gives you a RS232 port, useful for running a modem or printer and a network facility. Both are very useful additions but unfortunately most low-cost printers use Centronics rather than RS232 and the add-on kit for an Epson printer, for example, is in the region of £70. Moreover, while Spectrums can be networked there is some confusion as to whether or not the system will work with a QL, and if not that will mean additional software, on top of the 276 bytes used by the system.

Whether you love or hate the microdrive it cannot be ignored. If your pocket will not stretch any further then it is worth consideration, but bear in mind that it cannot be used on any other computer and so when you upgrade your system it will no longer be of any use. The manual supplied with it is not up to the usual high Sinclair standard, so you would do well to get one of the many books published about it. *Mastering Your ZX Microdrive*, by Andrew Pennel, Sunshine Books, or *Spectrum Microdrive Book* by Dr Ian Logan, Melbourne House, can both be recommended. The former contains many useful programs and a list of ROM bugs, the latter was written by the co-author of the ROM and contains a wealth of information.

The newest addition to the range of fast storage devices is the Wafadrive from Rotronics. That is an unashamed attempt to beat the microdrive in terms of the facilities it offers. For the price of £129.99 it offers two drives, Centronics and RS232 ports and, as an introductory offer, a word processing package, **Spectral Writer** by Softek, which in many ways rivals Tasword II.

On power up the Spectrum behaves as usual until the Wafadrive Operating System (WOS) is called. That is done by entering NEW *, at which point a copyright message is displayed and the system is ready to run. The syntax of the WOS has been well thought out, the normal Spectrum commands are used with the addition of the * to indicate the wafadrive rather than tape in the form:

```
SAVE *"test"
```

That applies to all the normal tape commands except DATA. CODE can be made to autorun with the addition of a third parameter. The save name is converted to upper case by the system.

A system of defaults is used so the above line would save to the default drive; if that was the A drive and you wanted to save to the B drive the command:

```
SAVE *"b:test"
```

would be used. The default drive can be easily changed using CAT #"b:".

Other useful features are LOAD *, which loads the first program on the wafer, ERASE *"te*" which will erase all programs starting with te and SAVE #"test" which will overwrite an existing program called test. That is useful when developing a program as usually any attempt to save using an existing name will cause an error to protect your programs from accidental erasure. CLS* will reset the ink, paper and border colours to the start up black and white.

It is not possible to save DATA in the usual way. A system of channels and streams, as used on the microdrive, are used with information being PRINTed to it and INPUT back; INKEY$ can also be used. MOVE is used to copy programs from one drive to the other. That will not work with programs which have been protected. FORMAT is used to format a new wafer and also to set the baud rate of the RS232 channel.

When the WOS is initialised it sets aside an area of memory for its own use. That contains a directory of both drives, a 1K buffer into which the sectors of data are loaded and space for the variables used by the system. That takes up 2292 bytes, each additional channel opened takes 1044 bytes and the Centronics interface a further 11 bytes. With so much space taken up, the number of commercial programs which can be easily converted is very small. Fortunately, Rotronics are working on filing and spreadsheet programs for business users and hope to be able to release games in the near future.

Wafers are available in three sizes — 16K, 64K and 128K — and the smaller the capacity the quicker the system will

continued on page 102

continued from page 101

work. Each wafer contains a continuous loop of tape and is designed so that a metal tab protects the tape when the wafer is removed from the drive.

When testing the system for speed a 64K wafer was used, being middle of the range and most useful to 48K Spectrum owners. Formatting the wafer takes 2.10 minutes; 73 sectors are found, one used for the directory leaving 72K available for storage. A maximum of 32 files can be kept on a wafer due to the design of the directory.

Using the test program it takes 14.55 minutes to save, due to the tape doing one complete revolution per save. It also gives an out-of-screen error after 22 saves as the drive prints what it is saving on screen. Loading in sequence takes 14.30 minutes and 14.08 when using a STEP of −1; when erasing it also takes 14.08 minutes. If the wildcard facility is used, i.e. ERASE *"*" it only takes 29 seconds because the tape only has to make one revolution. It would therefore seem that with a 64K wafer the minimum LOAD/SAVE time is about 30 seconds; a 64K block takes 40 seconds to save.

The manual supplied with the drive is well laid out and informative about the drives but lacking in respect of the ports. Apart from setting the baud rate it does not explain how to alter any parameters when printing. It appears that codes below 32 are not sent, other than 13 and/or 10 except by using CHR$, codes 32 to 164 are sent as normal and all tokens, codes 165 and above, are expanded. That is adequate for most simple printing but some modems require parity and stop bits to be set (or not) on RS232 signals and printers can use differing line feed settings.

Overall the system has much to offer, proving more reliable than microdrive due to the design of the wafers, but the memory usage is very high and its speed slow compared to other available systems. It will probably be popular with business users where reliability is paramount and the Spectral Writer program is a good indication of what can be achieved. It is very similar to Tasword II in operation, whose text files can be loaded directly, with additional features such as page headings and numbers. It is rather quicker although some of the features are not so convenient, it tends to work on the text file globally rather than by paragraphs and so when justifying the file you cannot do so selectively. It can give odd results, as is found when there are two words on a line at the end of a paragraph and the file is justified. The words are moved to the far left and right rather than both to the left margin.

Provided you do not want to convert your own programs or can use the machine code method of using the screen, and you are not worried by the lack of speed then the two drives and ports are very useful. If you use the MOVE command to make back-up copies of wafers be prepared though to take a long coffee break.

Next month we look at some of the floppy disc systems available for the Spectrum. Both 3in and 5 1/4in systems are now available including one which we shall be revealing exclusively and which will raise a few eyebrows. We will also include a table detailing the performance of all the drives now available.

Challenge Sprint, £69.95 from Challenge Research Ltd, 218 High Street, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire.
Sinclair Microdrive Expansion Pack, £99.95 from Sinclair Research, Stanhope Road, Camberley, Surrey.
Wafadrive, £129.99 from Rotronics, Santosh House, Marlborough Trading Estate, West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP11 2LB.

University Software

UNISTAT

STATISTICAL PACKAGE

MULTIVARIATE REGRESSION: Main output consists of estimated coefficients, t-stats, standard errors, R^2, corrected R^2, standard error of regression, F stat, and Durbin-Watson stat. Further output options: multiple correlation matrix, var-covar matrix, ANOVA of regression, residuals, plot of residuals, interpolation. Data options: Log/ln option for each variable, no-constant regression, choice of dependent variable, selection of independent variables, auto-omission of linearly dependent variables.

ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE, SCATTER DIAGRAMS AND TIME SERIES PLOTS; One-way and two-way (without interaction) ANOVA tables, scatter diagrams of paired data and time series plots with auto-scaling.

STATISTICAL TESTS, CORRELATION COEFFICIENTS AND PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS: Basic stats on each column of data (size, sum, mean, variance, std. dev.). Chi-square (contingency table), t (one sample, two sample, paired), F, Mann-Whitney U, and Wilcoxon signed rank tests. Pearson's, Spearman's rank and Kendall's rank corr. coefs. Chi-square, t, F, binomial, Poisson and normal (std., non-std.) distributions. Results of tests and corr. coefs are displayed with significance levels.

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS, FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTIONS AND HISTOGRAMS: Analysis of raw data or data with frequency counts. Raw data sorted and grouped. Choice of lower bounds and class intervals. Absolute, cumulative and relative frequencies. Histograms with up to 200 classes. Output displays sum, mean, mean deviation, median, variance, std. dev., 3rd and 4th moments, skewness, kurtosis, range, etc.

All programs are datafile compatible with Matrix Operations program in UNIMAX package. Data matrix capacity examples (columns by rows): **CBM-64;** 2x1250, 5x700, 10x380, **BBC-B;** 2x750, 5x400, 10x200, **48K Spectrum;** 2x1800, 5x900, 10x500. **CBM-64** (disk/cass): **£85, BBC-B** (disk/cass): **£85, 48K Spectrum** (mdvcart/cass): **£60**

UNIMAX

LINEAR PROGRAMMING PACKAGE

LINEAR PROGRAMMING: A powerful and instructive optimisation program capable of handling all sorts of linear programming problems (min/max, any combination of <=, =, >= constraints and $x_i>=0$, $x_i<=0$, $-\alpha<x_i<\alpha$ sign constraints). Primal, canonical, dual and their solutions are displayed in standard mathematical form. Unbounded problem and no feasible solution prompts. Edit option for all inputs. Capacity examples (variables by constraints): **CBM-64;** 10x35, 25x30, 40x25, **BBC-B;** 10x25, 20x20, **48K Spectrum;** 10x45, 25x35, 50x25.

MATRIX OPERATIONS: Inversion, transposition, determinant, pre- and post-multiplication, scalar multiplication, addition and subtraction of matrices and vectors. Any output can in turn be used as the input of the next operation without re-typing. Matrices can be saved or loaded at any stage. Datafile compatible with **UNISTAT** package. Capacities: **CBM-64;** 35x35, **BBC-B;** 25x25, **48K Spectrum;** 45x45.

CBM-64 (disk/cass): **£60, BBC-B** (disk/cass): **£60, 48K Spectrum** (mdvcart/cass): **£45.**

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR 48K SPECTRUM
INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS SET: £25
ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY: £9.95 • BIBLIOFILE: £9.95
POLYNOMIALS: £6.95 • INTEGRATION: £6.95

To: **UNISOFT LIMITED**
(Dept. B) 29 ST PETER'S STREET, LONDON N1 8JP.
TEL: 01-359 0978

Prices include VAT and delivery within the UK. For orders from Europe add £1.50, outside Europe £3.00 per item for airmail post. Dealers enquiries welcome.

COMPATIBLE WITH sinclair ZX Microdrives

COMMODORE 64, BBC-B, 48K SPECTRUM
✻ Comprehensive user manual ✻ Full data handling facilities (display, print, change, save, load)
✻ All results can be printed out ✻

COMPATIBLE WITH sinclair ZX Microdrives

"YOU HAVE THE BEST SOFTWARE AND YOU ARE FASTER."

(V. Kressler, Switzerland.)

Software Supermarket is a very different kind of software shop. First, we actually play all the programs ourselves - and choose just the best to offer you. Second, we never advertise a program until we have it in stock. Third, we send FREE with your order our unique catalogue of Spectrum/Commodore/BBC best - which quotes all the reviews, gives detailed program descriptions and even lists load times! And, most important of all, **WE ALWAYS TRY TO SEND OUT YOUR PROGRAMS ON THE SAME DAY WE GET YOUR ORDER.** U.K. prices include VAT: export prices are the same (plus p&p). To order by VISA/ACCESS call 01 789 8546 at any time, 24hrs a day. We're not the cheapest, but our customers tell us we're the fastest - and we only sell the best. Try us once. We know you'll be back for more.

48K SPECTRUM ONLY

ZAXXON This is the Official Zaxxon. 1 or 2 players. The famous 3D diagonally scrolling graphics. Attack the enemy's floating fortress, then there's a dogfight in space - and you're still far from the deadly Zaxxon robot. STICKS: Kempston, Interface2 **(U.S. Gold) £7.95**

SHERLOCK The most eagerly awaited adventure of 1984. Does for Conan Doyle what 'The Hobbit' did for J.R. Tolkien - and it's written by the same programmer. The action takes place in Victorian London and you, as Holmes, must unravel the mysterious cases that turn up. 800 word vocabulary and graphics, too! NO STICKS. **(Melbourne House) £14.95**

DARK STAR Claims to be the longest single-load program ever written for the Spectrum. From the 'Halls of the Things' people. 256 sectors of galaxy to fly around zapping. 5 skill levels. And CUSTOMISE feature lets you personalise the game, too. STICKS: Kempston, Interface2, Cursor. **(Design Design) £7.50**

THE WRATH OF MAGRA *"This is a great game and it could take a lifetime to solve it.... well worth buying" (Micro Adventurer).* This BLACK CRYSTAL sequel loads in 3 x 48K episodes of graphic adventure. FREE 158-page illustrated book. The biggest ever adventure! NO STICKS. **(Microvision) £12.50**

FRANK N. STEIN *"A MONSTER HIT!..... Some delightful new hazards, such as ice which causes a brilliantly animated skid!" (PCGames).* 50 SCREEN horror/arcade platform game as you build your monster. Highly original with smashing graphics. STICKS Kempston, Interface2, Cursor. **(PPS) £5.95**

DEUS EX MACHINA *"It's like a breath of fresh air. It is a completely new computer experience... brings the drama of the widescreen epic to computer software... a brave new idea." (PopCompWkly).* This is like nothing else you've ever played! Load the program, then load the sound cassette which synchronises music with your playing. Stars Jon Pertwee, Frankie Howerd, Ian Dury - and Mel Croucher! STICKS Kempston, Interface2. **(Automata) £15.00**

RETURN TO EDEN The long-awaited sequel to 'SNOWBALL' and the first Level 9 adventure with graphics. Over 250 locations, as much text and as many puzzles as before - but now there are 240 pictures as well! 'Snowball' still available, same price. NO STICKS **(Level 9) £9.95**

OMNICALC 2 *"The easiest program of all to use.... the manual is by far the best." (PopCompWkly).* The only Spectrum spreadsheet entirely in machine-code. Up to 99 columns by 250 rows. Insert/delete rows or columns. Bar-chart feature. Microdriver/printer compatible. NO STICKS. **(Microsphere) £14.95**

BEACH HEAD *"A multi-screen arcade game that is very close to being perfect, graphically, it is astonishing." (PopCompWkly).* A whole war on one tape! Decide how you will invade the island, then air-sea battles, tank landing, then The Fortress! SAVE Hall of Fame. STICKS Kempston, Interface2. **(U.S. Gold) £7.95**

SYSTEM 15000 *AN ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL IDEA... ARTIFICIAL HACKING! Hacking has a wonderful appeal...System 15000 closely mimics a vast number of different databases and you have to hack your way around discovering passwords....as difficult and rewarding as any adventure game." (PopCompWkly).* NO STICKS **(Craig) £9.95**

COMBAT LYNX *"The 3D graphics are quite different to anything seen before on any micro... hills, valleys and fields move towards you in an astonishingly convincing way." (PCGames).* Impressive air-to-ground battle simulation as you pilot your Lynx helicopter. Realtime combat; 4 skill levels; 30 re-definable command keys. SAVE Hi-score. ANY STICK EXCEPT KEMPSTON. **(Durell) £8.95**

COMPLETE MACHINE CODE *"THE BEST MACHINE-CODE TUTOR... no serious Spectrum programmer should learn machine-code without it." (Crash). "Simple to use... the lessons are comprehensive enough to help even the beginner.... an excellent introduction to assembly language.... very user-friendly." (Sinclair User.)* Over 70K of data loads in 4 parts from 2 cassettes. Helpful manual. NO STICKS. **(New Generation) £14.95**

WHITE LIGHTNING *"ALL YOU NEED FOR PROFESSIONAL GAMES PRODUCTION." (HomeCompWkly). "The best package I have used, its features and flexibility are second to none" (PersCompNews).* The key to professional games design; includes a separate 20K SPRITE DESIGNER. **(Oasis) £14.95**

AVALON *"The entire adventure world is depicted in scrolling 3D graphics, an astonishing feat." (PCGames).* Truly amazing pictures as you explore 223 rooms and 32 tunnels on 8 levels, meeting around 100 characters! STICKS: Kempston, Inteface2. **(Hewson) £7.95**

NEW! 32-PAGE CATALOGUE

Latest edition has 32-pages of Spectrum/BBC/CBM64 best. One catalogue free with every order or send £1 cash or cheque now (no credit cards). Your £1 back with your first order!

SOFTWARE SUPERMARKET VISA/ACCESS CALL 01-789 8546 (24hrs)

To: SOFTWARE SUPERMARKET (SU25)
87 HOWARD'S LANE, LONDON SW15 6NU.
(If you do not want to cut this magazine, write your order out clearly on plain paper
I have a 48K SPECTRUM
I enclose a cheque/PO made payable to SOFTWARE SUPERMARKET
OR CHARGE MY VISA/ACCESS/EUROCARD/MASTERCARD

No: ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐

Signature .....
Please write clearly. If we can't read it, you won't get it.
Name .....
Address .....
.....
.....Postcode: .....
PHONE NO:, if any, in case of query .....

Program	Price
Postage & Packing UK add 75p per order	
Europe ADD £1.00 per program	
Outside Europe ADD £ 1.50 program	
Total Order	

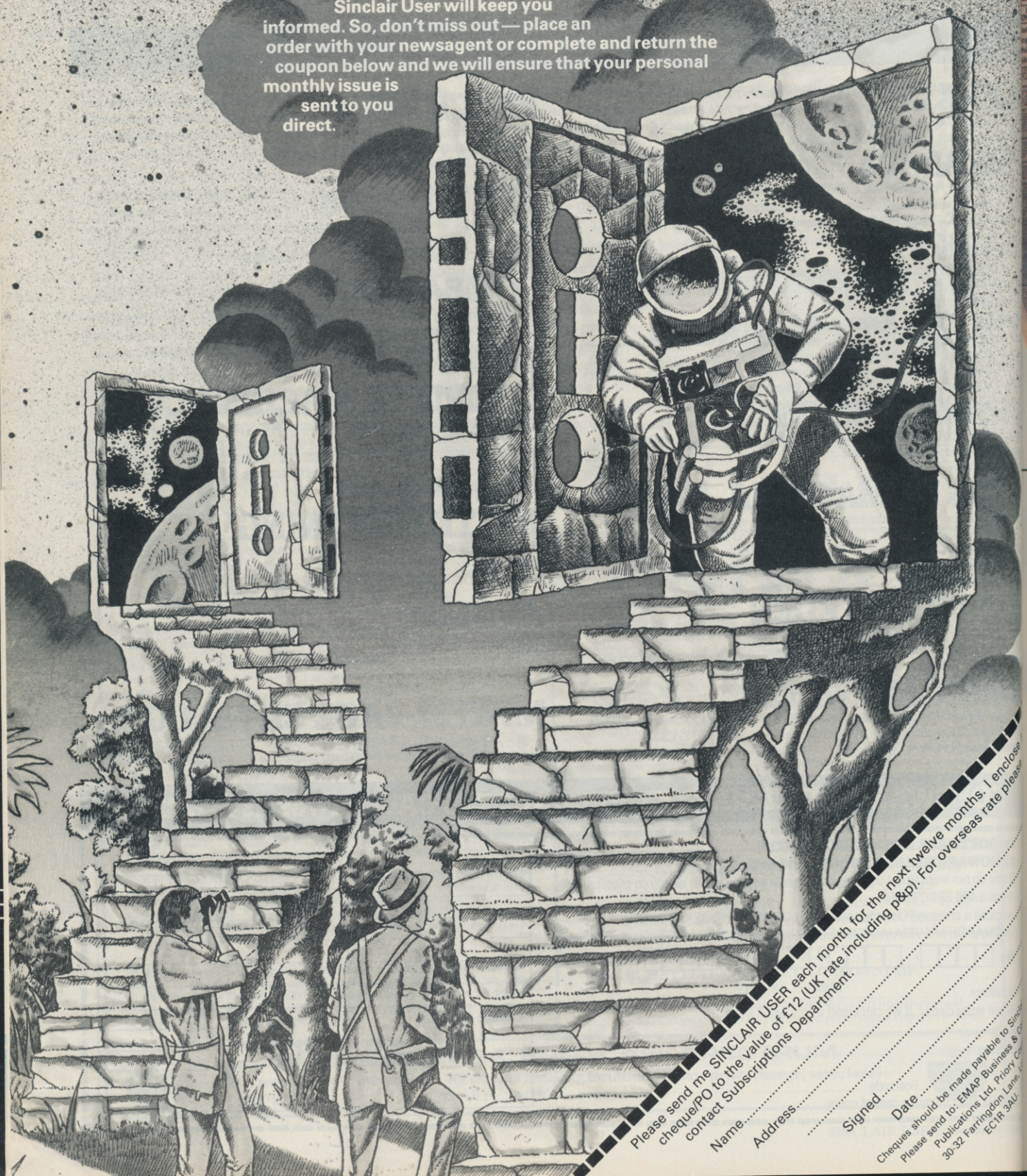
Explore the world of Sinclair

Sinclair User, the monthly magazine, will ensure that all ZX81, Spectrum and QL users get the most from their computers.

Every month we include exciting games programs, reviews on the latest software, bench tests on hardware and peripherals, as well as technical advice and development news on Sinclair products.

Sinclair User interviews key people within Sinclair Research, authors of top selling games plus regular features on the developments in the fast moving computer industry.

We cover all aspects of Sinclair, for beginners to enthusiasts right through to business users — Sinclair User will keep you informed. So, don't miss out — place an order with your newsagent or complete and return the coupon below and we will ensure that your personal monthly issue is sent to you direct.



Please send me SINCLAIR USER each month for the next twelve months. I enclose cheque/PO to the value of £12 (UK rate including p&p). For overseas rate please contact Subscriptions Department.

Name.....

Address.....

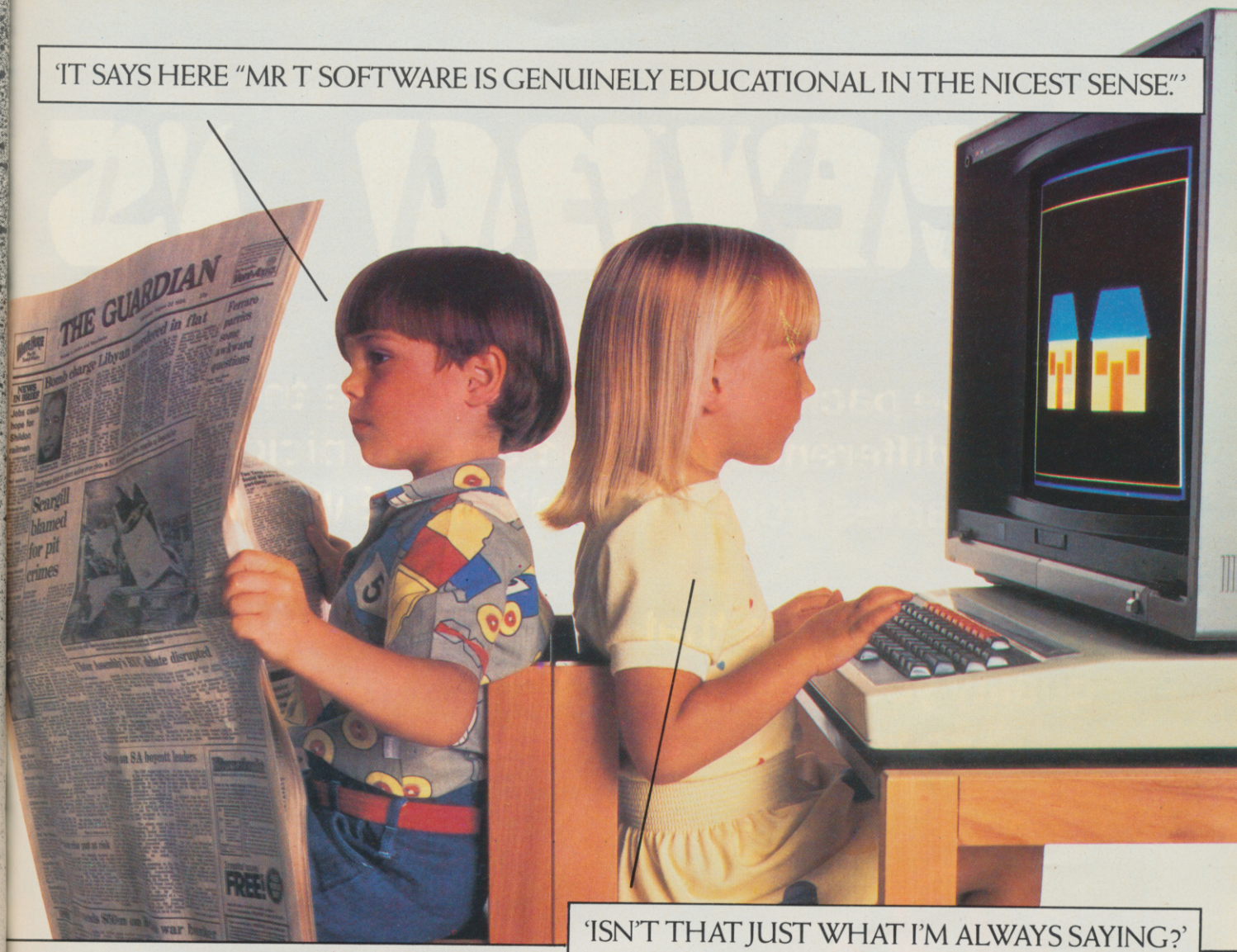
Signed.....

Date.....

Cheques should be made payable to Sinc

Please send to: EMAP Business & C
Publications Ltd, Priory Co
30-32 Farringdon Lane, L
EC1R 3AU

'IT SAYS HERE "MR T SOFTWARE IS GENUINELY EDUCATIONAL IN THE NICEST SENSE."'



'ISN'T THAT JUST WHAT I'M ALWAYS SAYING?'

Mr T educational software from Good Housekeeping, is the most exciting way to introduce your children to the world of learning.

But you don't have to take our word.

Amongst a host of favourable reviews of Mr T, the Times Educational Supplement, no less, was moved to say: 'Bouquets should be sent to Good Housekeeping for a productive collaboration between teachers and programmers.'

What inspired them to heap such lavish praise?

For a start, Mr T combines sound educational principles with the colour, fun, and excitement of computer graphics.

('Brilliant stuff for 3 to 6 year olds' was The Lady's verdict.)

All the games are designed to capture the child's imagination, with levels of difficulty increasing in line with ability.

But the real beauty of Mr T is that you and your children operate the games and learn together, opening up further areas of educational play away from the computer.

Mr T also provides a useful introduction to computers, each pack including full loading and operating instructions.

All the areas appropriate to your child's early learning are covered: numbers, letters, shapes, measuring, money, reading and telling the time, with at least two games per pack.

All the games are compatible with Commodore 64, Spectrum 48K and BBC B computers.

To sum up Mr T, we'll leave it to a seven year old boy interviewed by the Daily Telegraph: 'The best thing I've seen in my life.' was his verdict.

For full details write to:
Ebury Software,
National Magazine House,
Broadwick St., London W1V 2BP.

Available at all major high street computer stockists.

MR T EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE

The best start in life you could give your child.

123abc FROM GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

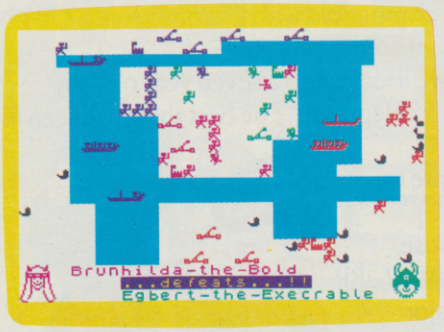
50p

Seeing is

See the pack – see the screen – see the game. See the difference the moment you pick up one of the games from Firebird's new Silver Range.

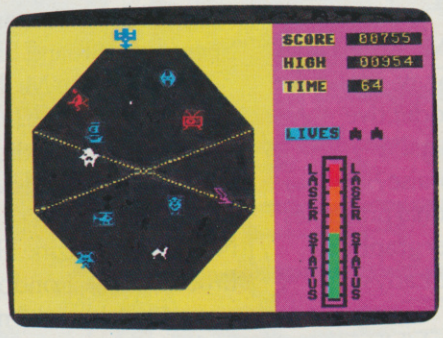
The difference is that our packs show the high quality you'll see on the screen when you play, so you know exactly what you're buying.

Here's a sneak look at three of the NEW games:



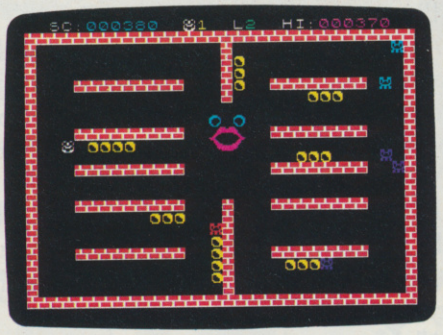
VIKING RAIDERS

THRILL to the Vikings' exploits in this highly original war game. SAIL the Fjord in search of treasure and adventure. LEAD your armies in raids on enemy castles. CURSE at the uncontrollable antics of drunken Norsemen. MAY ODIN PROTECT YOU! For 1, 2, 3 or 4 players (any combination of human and/or computer controlled Viking armies).



EXODUS

Galleons, abominable snowmen, hover mowers, televisions and llamas are just some of the strange characters trying to escape from The Pit. Your task is to zap them with a laser bolt before they reach the rim. Whatever you do, don't shoot Spud!



CRAZY CAVERNS

Ten Crazy Caverns, ten hungry mouths to feed. Line up the Crunchy Cubes and cannon them into the Craving Craw. Watch out for the Crazy Crashers coming to convert your little Cubey Crammer into a Crushed Crisp. It's a cracker!

Look out for these games in the FIREBIRD silver range at selected high street stores.

SPECTRUM: THE WILD BUNCH · BOOTY · MR. FREEZE · TERRA FORCE · VIKING RAIDERS · MENACE · EXODUS · RUN BABY RUN · CRAZY CAVERNS.
COMMODORE 64: BOOTY · MR. FREEZE · EXODUS · HEADACHE · ZULU.
VIC 20: SNAKE BITE · MICKEY THE BRICKY.
BBC MICRO B: BIRD STRIKE · GOLD DIGGER · ACID DROPS · DUCK!

believing

The same high standard applies to all twenty games in the range and all are available at the remarkably low price of

£2.50

firebird

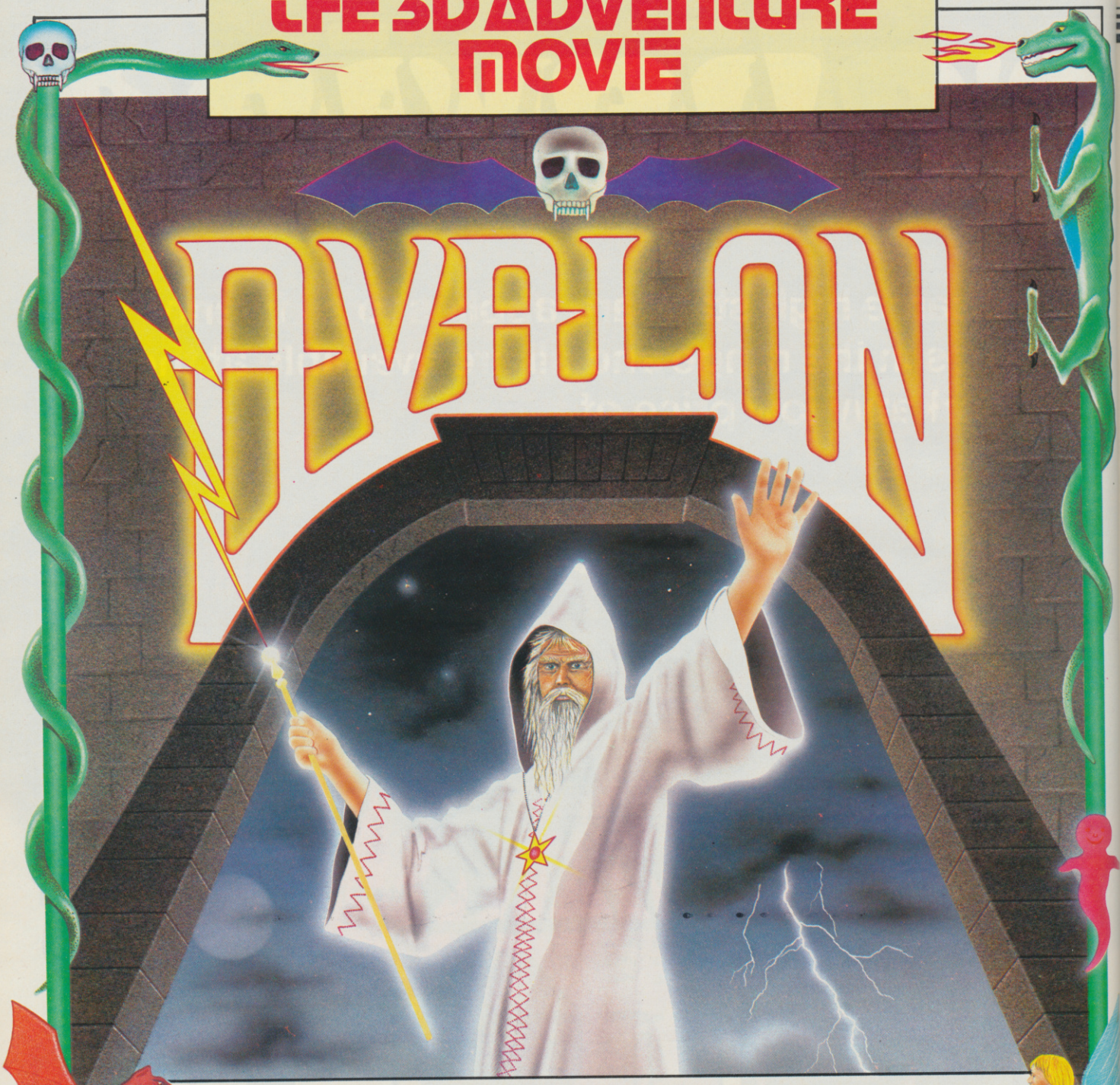
SOFTWARE

The new range from British Telecom. **You'd better believe it!!!**

FIREBIRD SOFTWARE, WELLINGTON HOUSE, UPPER ST. MARTIN'S LANE, LONDON WC2H 9DL. TEL: 01-379 6755/5626

Firebird and the Firebird logo are trademarks of British Telecommunications plc.

THE 3D ADVENTURE MOVIE



AVALON

For the first time ever there is an all action, 3D adventure game with stunning moving graphics – the unique Avalon.

Only Hewson Consultants could bring you Avalon with its awe inspiring animation. Avalon is the breakthrough that brings adventure to life. In this challenging game you must use your astral projection Morac the Mage to search into the heart of the Isle of Glass and forever banish the Lord of Chaos before he can subject Earth to the Dark Ages for a thousand years. You must explore a three dimensional world with more than 220 separate rooms and over 30 tunnels. On your way you will be challenged by over a hundred animated foes, goblins, wraiths, guardians and evil wizards. Your only protection is the magic of your spells. Avalon, by Steve Turner, is the adventure game of the year, and is available NOW! from your local software stockist. Remember, a world of graphic adventure awaits for only **£7.95**

Other titles for ZX Spectrum

3D LUNATTACK – Steve Turner
Fly your Hover Fighter over the 3D Lunar landscape battling the SEIDDAB.
Joystick compatible, 48K only **£7.95**

3D SEIDDAB ATTACK – Steve Turner
Using your radar, missiles and sixth sense clear the city area of SEIDDAB.
Joystick compatible, 16K or 48K **£5.95**

3D SPACE WARS – Steve Turner
Hunt the Seiddab through four levels of 3D hyperspace and destroy them.
Joystick compatible, 16K or 48K **£5.95**

NIGHTFLITE II – Mike Male
Flight simulation with full instrument display and perspective runway view.
Joystick compatible, 16K or 48K **£7.95**

HEATHROW AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL – Mike Male
Written by a professional air traffic controller.
16K or 48K **£7.95**

QUEST ADVENTURE – Kim Topley
Find a map hidden in an inhospitable world inhabited by gruesome creatures.
48K only. **£5.95**

FANTASIA DIAMOND – Kim Topley
Retrieve the magnificent Fantasia Diamond and rescue Boris the master spy.
48K only. **£7.95**

KNIGHT DRIVER – Clive Brooker
Steer your car round a tortuous circuit of roads, braking and accelerating as you go.
Joystick compatible, 48K only. **£5.95**

Books

20 Best Programs for the ZX Spectrum **£5.95**
40 Best Machine Code Routines for the ZX Spectrum **£5.95**

As part of our continuing development of innovative software we are always happy to evaluate software sent to us with a view to publication.

GSH

HEWSON CONSULTANTS

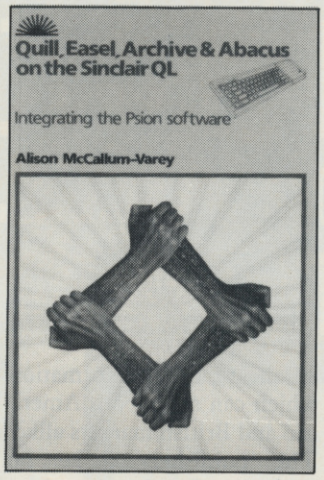
56B Milton Trading Estate, Milton, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RX

Selected items available from Centresoft Dealers and all leading computer software retailers: WHSMITH Rumbelows John Menzies TIGER TRADER Spectrum LASKYS Boots HMV

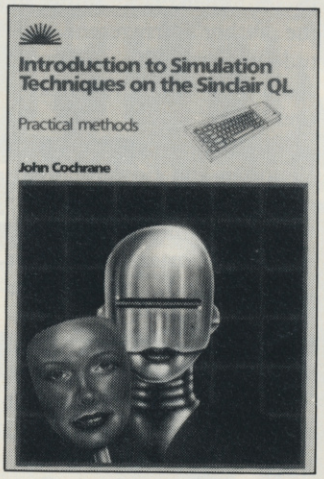
Simulating life on the QL

TWO OF THE BEST books about the QL on the market have nothing to do with SuperBASIC, QDOS, or 68000 machine code programming.

The first, *Quill, Easel, Archive and Abacus on the Sinclair QL* is near to those topics but it goes one step beyond showing how each of the commands work for each of the packages. Instead it shows how each of them can be used with each other to create an environment in which complex business storage systems combine the graphics power of Easel, the word processing capabilies of Quill, the numeric brains of Abacus and the storage capacity of Archive.



The author, Alison McCallum-Varey has, in some places, made explanations and examples easier to understand than the Sinclair supplied manual and gives practical techniques for incorporating the software packages into any business. If any business person is not convinced about the power of the QL when they start to read the book they will be by the time they have finished.



Subtitled Integrating the Psion Software, the book is not split into separate sections, each giving an overview of one of the packages, but it does have a definite pattern which can be seen both while reading it and by studying the contents page. It almost shares the same pyramidal structure evident within the Psion software. You can follow the text at any level of understanding and skip over those parts which are not yet easily accessible without losing the thread of the author's argument.

The second book, *Introduction to Simulation Techniques on the Sinclair QL,* may seem a strange title to bring out for a relatively new machine.

John Cochrane, the author, presents the usually complex subject in a digestible, albeit unimaginative, style which most beginners should understand. He does not simply regurgitate all the general information which can be found about simulation and emulation techniques, and the advantages of the QL are heavily outlined.

The examples centre mainly around engineering but probability and so-called machine-exhibited intelligence is also covered.

Home and business simulations are included. At home Cochrane shows how to calculate and budget while at work future trends analysis can be done using the listings produced within the text. For those interested in developing their own techniques information is given on deteminism, the Markov Chain and the Monte Carlo technique. Those are backed with examples of use and a section on how to develop any simulation from scratch.

Both books from Sunshine Publications show what can be achieved when authors think about a machine and its capabilities before sitting down to write.

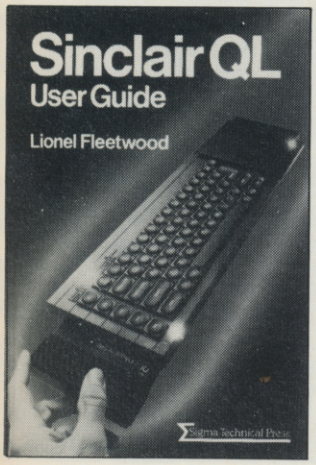
Quill, Easel, Archive and Abacus on the Sinclair QL — Integrating the Psion Software Price: **£6.95** **Introduction to Simulation Techniques on the Sinclair QL** Price: **£6.95.** Publisher: **Sunshine Publications**

more books on page 110

Case of the missing QDOS

ONE OF THE most sparse sources of information about the QL has just been provided by Sigma Press and it is called, more in desperation than hope you might think, *The Sinclair QL User Guide.*

The User Guide is just a rewrite of that other QL User Guide and looks as if the writer has dashed it off on a word processor and not bothered to add anything of his own, such personal opinions about how best to use the massive power of the new machine, or even a touch of humour. Most other books succeed in adding something new to the Sinclair Guide but Fleetwood's book does not.



Much of the book discusses the Psion software packages, twenty pages being left for a quick cut and thrust at SuperBasic which barely covers the points made in the beginner's section of the Sinclair Guide. You might think that the rest of the text would contain a wealth of information, culled from the corridors of Psion or Sinclair, about the software packages but you would be sadly wrong. There is one example for each of the packages and each of those covers barely one page.

The author and publisher do not seem to have measured their limitations in getting such a book out onto the market. Copies have been going out to WH Smith with bits of paper stuck over part of the blurb on the back of the book. For those interested in the offending passage, it reads "Bits and bytes don't come into it until you get to the technical section on the 68010 processor, the Motorola instruction set and the QDOS operating system. Even here, the language is clear and jargon-free, providing a painless introduction for those who want it." Yes, the introduction to QDOS is painless as it does not exist.

It is a pity to witness the birth of a book such as *The Sinclair QL User Guide.* It could have been so much better. Authors can make mistakes but the criticisms of this book are that nothing new, not even in terms of style, is brought to the reader.

The Sinclair QL Users Guide Price **£7.50** Publisher: **Sigma Press**

Even wimps can be wise

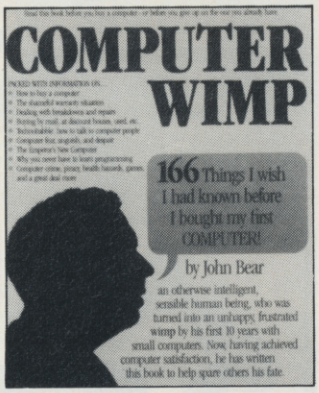
IF YOU WANT to know what you should have known before you went out and bought your computer then *Computer Wimp,* by John Bear, is for you.

Although it is an American import the book has more than a slight bearing on the British scene with its list of "166 things I wish I had known before I bought my first computer!" Each item is shown in bold type in the margin. The main body of the text, opposite the numbered item, explains the various factors involved in the solution of any problems which might arise from it.

The problems include buying a computer, operating the machine and dealing with any difficulties that may arise from its use. Each of the points is clear and concise in its terminology but hints of the author's irreverent attitude towards the computer scene peep through on nearly every page.

The text is peppered with Victorian and Edwardian engravings suitably doctored for at least minimal relevance. African porters shoulder printers and camel-borne Tuaregs carry PCs, to illustrate computer mobility. You will either love or hate this, but there is no denying that it is an extremely cheap method of illustrating a book.

As a reference book *Computer Wimp* is useful and amusing. It has some drawbacks, for instance all the prices are in dollars and not in sterling, but these are easily forgotten when you look at



all the practical information which can serve both American and British markets alike. The publishers make no apologies for the American bias, explaining that to change the text would be "to alter the flavour without adding anything to the quality."

Computer Wimp; Price: **£6.95;** Publisher: **Hutchinson**

Worthless enquiries

THE SPECTRUM version of Micro Enquirer rewritten from old *Computer Answers* articles, contains aspects of computing which have nothing to do with the Sinclair machine and will be of little interest to Spectrum users'.

It is a cheap way of running off titles and the joins show. About ten percent of the information contained within its pages is about the home computer market, the rest being specialist and business sectors.

Any Sinclair owners curious about CAD, CP/M, MODULA-2, MS-DOS, MSX and UNIX may find something of interest, but they should pay no attention to the blurb on the cover which proclaims "This book will answer all your questions about your Spectrum . . .". There is no mention of microdrives or the Interface 1, only a fleeting reference to joysticks and even the photographs are of hardware for other machines.

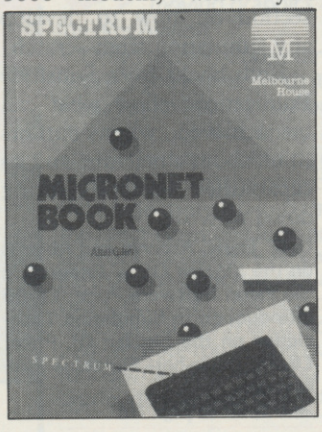
The Micro Enquirer: Spectrum Price: **£8.95** Publisher: **Century Communications**

Calling all modem users

IF YOU HAVE ever had the urge to buy a modem and plug into Micronet, or want to know about getting around the network, then *Micronet Book,* by Alan Giles, is for you.

A complete rundown of the modem hardware and what you need to run it is given first, followed by an introduction to the Prestel databases and how to go through them to the Micronet information and telesoftware systems.

One of the most useful aspects of the book is how to convert functions of the VTX 5000 modem, which you need to make your Spectrum compatible with Prestel codes, in order that they work with Interface One and microdrives. That means screen pages of information can be downloaded from the system onto microdrive. Those screens can then be called up quickly without having to wade through reams of paper or find a particular screen on cassette tape.



Micronet Book, from Melbourne House, is a novel idea which has been well executed. A lot of information has been packed into such a small volume and no Micronet user should be without it.

Micronet Book Price: **£6.95.** Publisher: **Melbourne House**

Support you local Spectrum

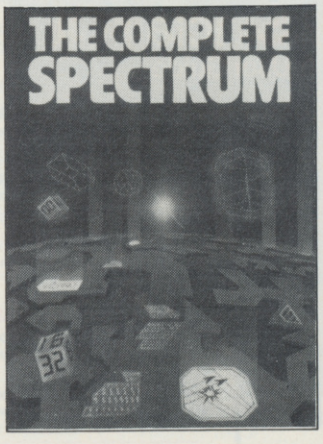
YOU WILL GET a lot of information if you buy *The Complete Spectrum,* published by Granada and edited by Allan Scott, a conglomeration of articles by authors such as Ian Sinclair, Mike James, and S M Gee.

The seven sections include information about setting up the computer, Basic and machine code, writing games programs and getting the most from peripherals.

Not satisfied with producing information about all aspects of the machine the publisher and editor have made it easy for the reader to find any information which is needed from hardware and software suppliers. An appendix listing most Sinclair supporting companies is a boon to any reader who might come across a reference to such companies in a magazine which then omits to mention its address. The software appendix even lists some of the most famous games on the market.

For a paltry £10.00 The Complete Spectrum is excellent value for money. One word of warning, though, to people who have bought any other Granada books on computers. Much of what is in the compilation has been culled from those books so beware. There had to be a catch somewhere.

The Complete Spectrum Price: **£9.95** Publisher: **Granada**



TURN IT ON
WITH LONGMAN COMPUTER BOOKS

Stretch your ZX Spectrum to its limits.
Create unique and inspiring games and programs with Longman Computer Books.
Written by experts, and fully explained and illustrated, with a structural step-by-step approach to programming.

Introducing Your ZX Spectrum
John Lettice
0 582 91602 X **£3.95**

All the practical advice you need to start programming. Write powerful and dynamic programs, and get on-screen results, fast.

ZX Spectrum Whizz Kid
Ian Scales
0 582 91608 9 **£4.95**

Packed with programming projects for kids and their parents. Make light work of computer music, drawing, animation, games of chance and guess work and much, much more.

Turbocharge Your ZX Spectrum
John Lettice
0 582 91604 6 **£5.95**

For the professional touch in your programs. Discover some of the ways in which your micro can be stretched and some of the ways in which its strengths and weaknesses can be exploited.

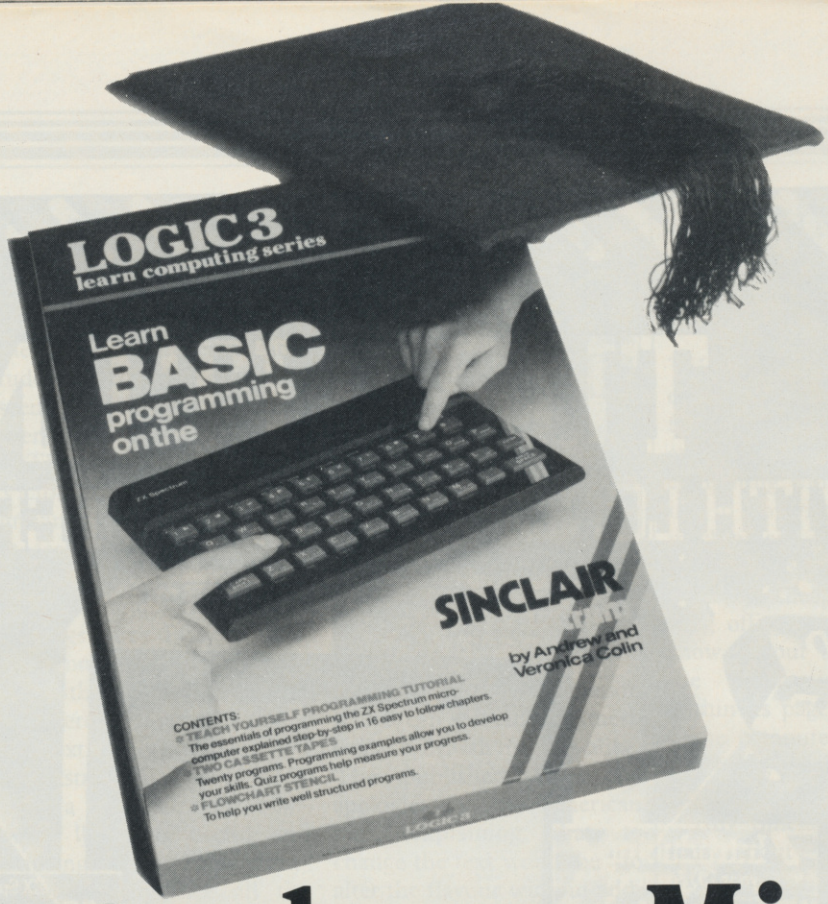
ZX Spectrum Game Master
P K McBride
0 582 91606 2 **£3.95**

Arcade games, adventure games, strategy games – they're all here in the Game Master. A guide to creating and personalising your own games. Full length games listed for you to play and personalize, plus advice and inspiration to set you on your own. It's your game after all.

Available from your computer dealer. **For your free catalogue** of our exciting range of books and software phone our HOTLINE today (0279) 34622 or post the coupon now to Longman Software. Dept GS6, Longman House, Burnt Mill, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE

Longman Computer Books

Name_____
Address_____
Post Code_____ SU1



How to teach your Micro a thing or two

Thousands of home computer owners have yet to discover their microcomputer's potential to help with many of the problems and decisions that come up every day in the home or office.

Perhaps you have always promised yourself that you would teach yourself programming, but have been put off by manuals which seem to assume a lifetime spent studying computer science and mathematics. Maybe you have looked at other computer books, but have yet to find one which is free of unnecessary jargon or where the program examples bear some relevance to real life and not space invaders.

Relax, your search is over.

The 'Learn BASIC' tutorials from Logic 3 are the latest development of a teaching method pioneered by Professor Andrew Colin and perfected by testing on 3 generations of students at Strathclyde University. The 'Strathclyde Method' has been translated into 8 languages and used by over 300,000 microcomputer users.

'Learn BASIC' is a jargon free, step by step, course in computer programming, which explains everything clearly in English, not computer talk. In a matter of hours you will be writing your first programs.

'Learn BASIC' is designed for people who want to keep abreast of the computer age, for people who realise that understanding computers is a key to future success at work, at school, and as a parent.

Get 'Learn BASIC' and teach your micro how to be useful! (Available from major branches of W.H. Smiths, Boots, Laskys, Greens, John Menzies and better computer shops nationwide.)

SU1

Please send me more information about your:-

(Tick appropriate box)

'Learn BASIC' tutorials ☐
Logic 3 Spectrum Club ☐
Logic 3 Commodore Club (64 and VIC owners only) ☐

I have a:-

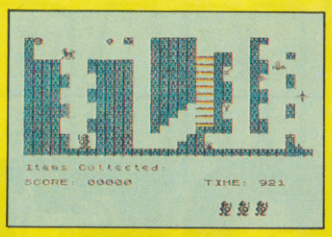
Sinclair Spectrum ☐
Commodore 64 ☐
Acorn Electron ☐
BBC Microcomputer ☐
Dragon ☐

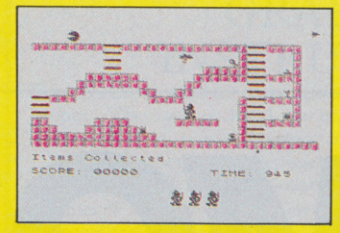
Name .....
(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)
.....
.....

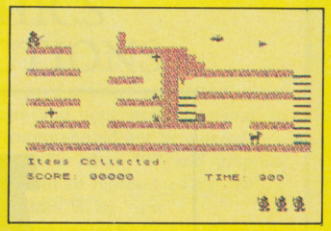
Address .....
.....
..... (Postcode) .....

LOGIC 3

To Logic 3 Ltd., FREEPOST, Mountbatten House, Victoria Street, Windsor SL4 1HE







At last, a game all Spectrum owners can enjoy — 24 exciting screens that will prove challenging, infuriating and, even worse, madly addictive!

Sir Lancelot must storm the castle, undaunted by such dangers as birds, bouncing balls, dogs, stars (and even cooking pots with legs??!!).

Your task is to collect the various precious objects scattered throughout the castle — a task that sounds easier than it is.

Great animation and high resolution make this the game to beat.

- Arcade/strategy
- 24 screens
- Up to 7 aliens per screen
- Moving stairways
- Suitable for all ages
- 100% machine code
- For any Spectrum

NEW RELEASE FOR SPECTRUM 16K/48K

Melbourne House

Orders to:
Melbourne House Publishers
39 Milton Trading Estate
Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4TD

Correspondence to:
Church Yard
Tring
Hertfordshire HP23 5LU

All Melbourne House cassette software is unconditionally guaranteed against malfunction.

Trade enquiries welcome.

☐ Please send me your free catalogue.
Please send me:

SPECTRUM BOOKS & SOFTWARE

SOFTWARE

☐ Sir Lancelot 16K & 48K	£5.95
☐ Spectrum Sherlock 48K	£14.95
☐ Spectrum Hampstead 48K	£9.95
☐ Spectrum Sports Hero 48K	£6.95
☐ Spectrum Mugsy 48K	£6.95
☐ Spectrum Penetrator 48K	£6.95
☐ Spectrum The Hobbit 48K	£14.95
☐ H.U.R.G. 48K	£14.95
☐ Spectrum Classic Adventure 48K	£6.95
☐ Melbourne Draw 48K	£8.95
☐ Abersoft FORTH 48K	£14.95

BOOKS

☐ Micronet Book	£6.95
☐ Spectrum Software Projects	£6.95
☐ Over The Spectrum	£4.95
☐ Spectrum Machine Language for the Absolute Beginner	£5.95
☐ Advanced Spectrum Machine Language	£6.95
☐ The Complete Spectrum ROM Disassembly	£9.95
☐ Super Charge your Spectrum	£5.95
☐ Understanding Your Spectrum	£6.95
☐ Spectrum Microdrive Book	£5.95

GENERAL BOOKS

☐ A Guide to Playing The Hobbit	£3.95
☐ Computer and Video Games Book of Adventure	£5.95
☐ Learning With Adventure Programs	£5.95
☐ Z80 Reference Guide	£9.95

£ .....

Please add 80p for post & pack £ .80

TOTAL £ .....

I enclose my ☐ cheque
☐ money order for £ .....

Please debit my Access card No .....

.....

Expiry Date .....

Signature .....

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Access orders can be telephoned through on our 24-hour ansafone (0235) 83 5001.

SU12B

SU1

MODEM.

HIGH-SPEED COMPUTER TALK FROM PROTEK

Inter-computer communication is easy in anyone's language, thanks to the Protek Modem. Acoustic coupling provides a reliable link between the computer and the telephone line. There are no connection charges, the unit is totally portable. The flexible link between the mouth and ear-pieces ensures a reliable connection between most telephones.

APPROVED for use with telecommunication systems run by British Telecommunications in accordance with the conditions in the instructions for use.

AVAILABLE FROM LEADING COMPUTER STORES

VISA

Protek

Protek Computing Ltd, 1A Young Square, Brucefield Industrial Park, Livingston, West Lothian. 0506 415353.

PROGRAM PRINTOUT

GRAPHICS INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions for graphics characters are printed in lower-case letters in our listings. They are enclosed by brackets and separated by colons to distinguish them and the brackets and colons should not be entered.

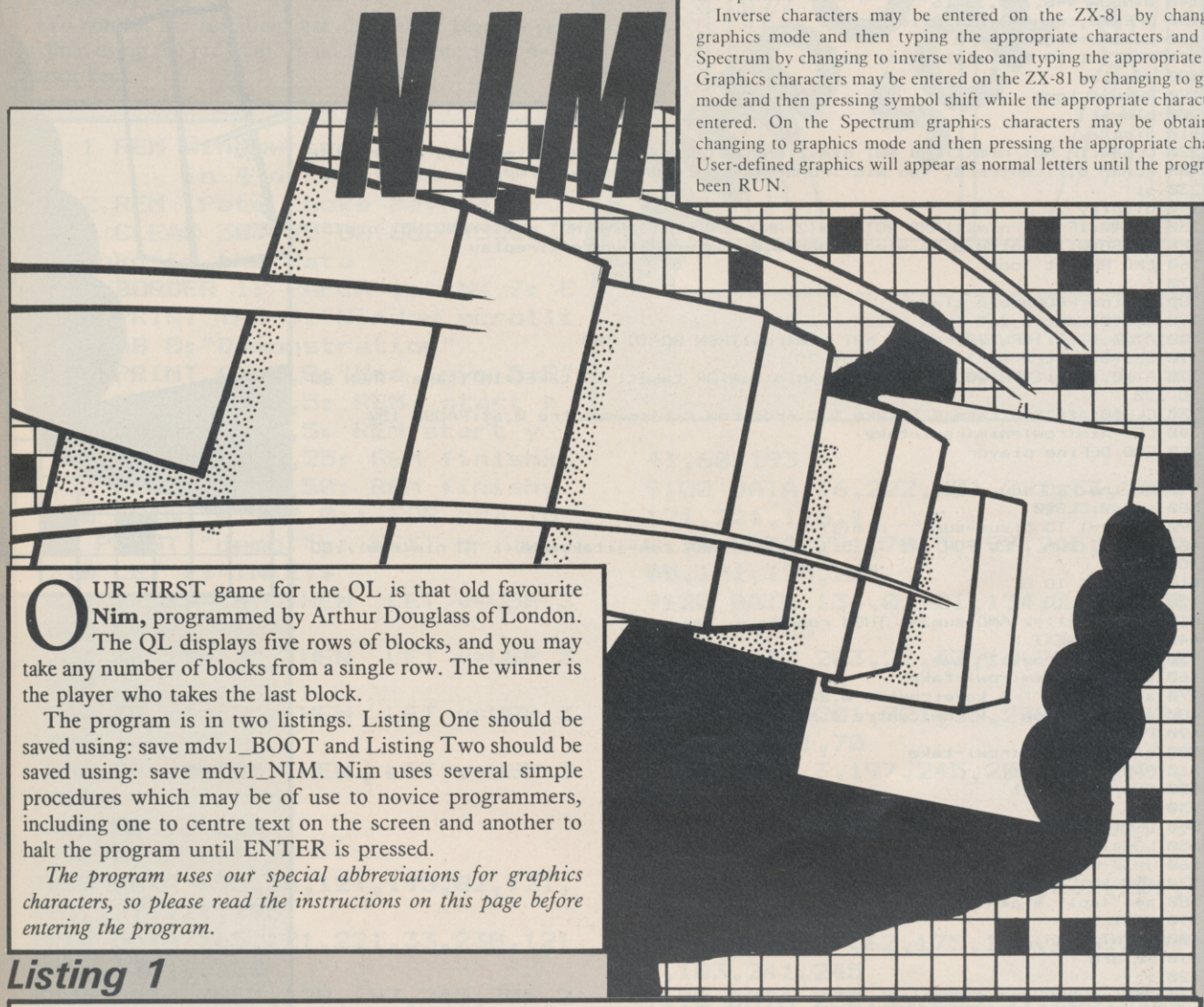
Inverse characters are represented by the letter "i" and graphics characters by "g". Thus an inverse W would be represented by "iw", a graphics W by "gw", and an inverse graphics W by "igw".

Spaces are represented by "sp" and inverse spaces by "isp". Whenever any character is to be used more than once, the number of times it is to be used is shown before it, together with a multiplication sign. Thus "6*isp" means six inverse spaces and "(g4:4*i4:g3)" would be entered as a graphic four, followed by an inverse four repeated four times, followed by a graphics three.

Where whole words are to be written in inverse letters they appear in the listings as lower-case letters. Letters to be entered in graphics mode on the Spectrum are underlined.

Inverse characters may be entered on the ZX-81 by changing to graphics mode and then typing the appropriate characters and on the Spectrum by changing to inverse video and typing the appropriate letters. Graphics characters may be entered on the ZX-81 by changing to graphics mode and then pressing symbol shift while the appropriate characters are entered. On the Spectrum graphics characters may be obtained by changing to graphics mode and then pressing the appropriate character. User-defined graphics will appear as normal letters until the program has been RUN.

NIM



OUR FIRST game for the QL is that old favourite **Nim,** programmed by Arthur Douglass of London. The QL displays five rows of blocks, and you may take any number of blocks from a single row. The winner is the player who takes the last block.

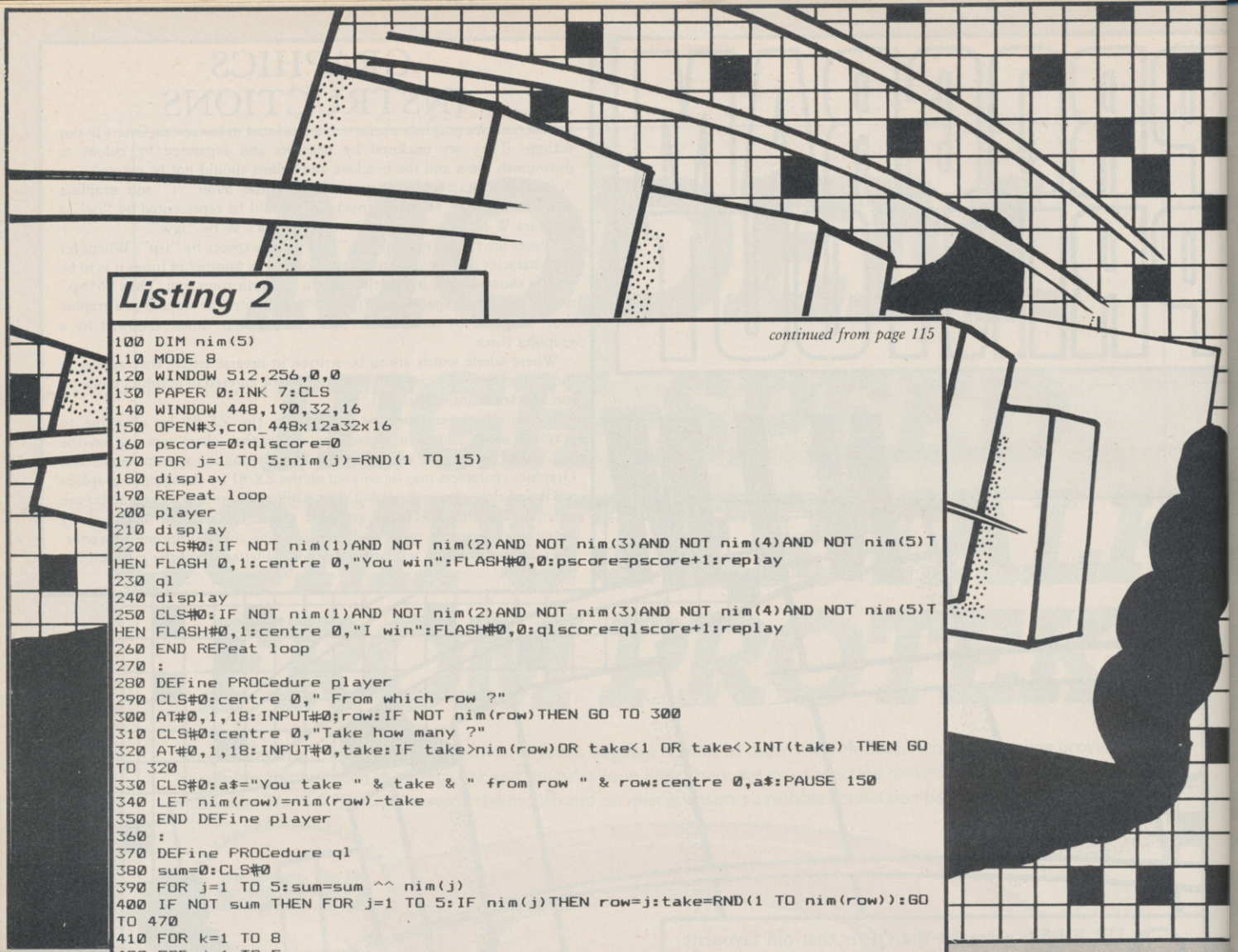
The program is in two listings. Listing One should be saved using: save mdv1_BOOT and Listing Two should be saved using: save mdv1_NIM. Nim uses several simple procedures which may be of use to novice programmers, including one to centre text on the screen and another to halt the program until ENTER is pressed.

The program uses our special abbreviations for graphics characters, so please read the instructions on this page before entering the program.

Listing 1

```
100 MODE 8
110 WINDOW 512,256,0,0
120 PAPER 2:INK 7:BORDER 2,2,7:CLS
220 FOR j=1 TO 7:centre "(sp)"
230 centre "PRESS ENTER"
240 wait
250 CLS
260 PRINT\\\
270 centre "RULES OF NIM"
280 PRINT
290 centre "The QL will display five rows of"
300 centre "from one to fifteen blocks."
310 PRINT
320 centre "The player and the QL alternately"
330 centre "take away any amount upto all the"
340 centre "blocks in any row."
350 PRINT
360 centre "The winner is the one to take away"
370 centre "the last block(s)."
380 PRINT\\\\\\\
390 centre "PRESS ENTER"
400 wait
410 CLS:PRINT\\\
420 centre "The QL does not play a perfect game,"
430 centre "it would be boring if it did, but it"
440 centre "plays a reasonable game."
450 PRINT
500 PRINT\\\\\\
510 centre "PRESS ENTER TO LOAD NIM"
520 wait
530 CLS
540 LRUN mdv1_NIM
550 DEFine PROCedure centre (a$)
560 LOCal j,k
570 j=42-LEN(a$)
580 FOR k=1 TO INT(j/2)
590 a$="(sp)" & a$
600 NEXT k
610 PRINT a$
620 RETurn
630 DEFine PROCedure wait
640 key=CODE(INKEY$(-1)):IF key<>10 THEN GO TO 640
650 END DEFine
```

continued on page 116

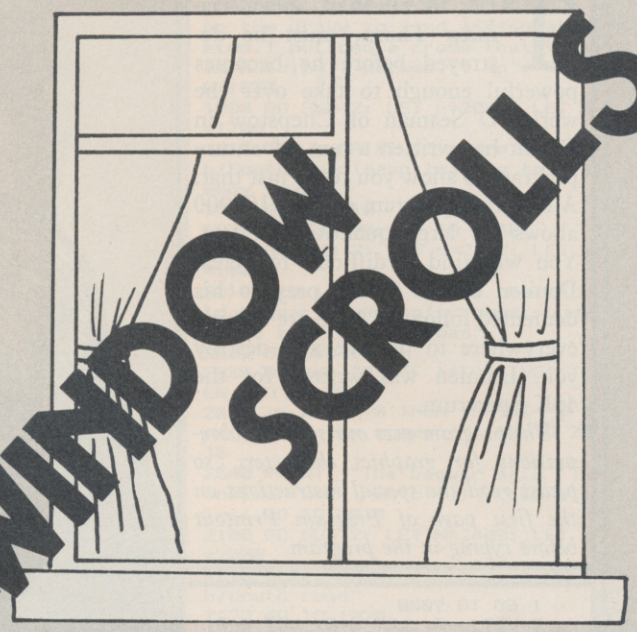


Listing 2

continued from page 115

```
100 DIM nim(5)
110 MODE 8
120 WINDOW 512,256,0,0
130 PAPER 0:INK 7:CLS
140 WINDOW 448,190,32,16
150 OPEN#3,con_448x12a32x16
160 pscore=0:qlscore=0
170 FOR j=1 TO 5:nim(j)=RND(1 TO 15)
180 display
190 REPeat loop
200 player
210 display
220 CLS#0:IF NOT nim(1)AND NOT nim(2)AND NOT nim(3)AND NOT nim(4)AND NOT nim(5)T
HEN FLASH 0,1:centre 0,"You win":FLASH#0,0:pscore=pscore+1:replay
230 ql
240 display
250 CLS#0:IF NOT nim(1)AND NOT nim(2)AND NOT nim(3)AND NOT nim(4)AND NOT nim(5)T
HEN FLASH#0,1:centre 0,"I win":FLASH#0,0:qlscore=qlscore+1:replay
260 END REPeat loop
270 :
280 DEFine PROCedure player
290 CLS#0:centre 0," From which row ?"
300 AT#0,1,18:INPUT#0;row:IF NOT nim(row)THEN GO TO 300
310 CLS#0:centre 0,"Take how many ?"
320 AT#0,1,18:INPUT#0,take:IF take>nim(row)OR take<1 OR take<>INT(take) THEN GO
TO 320
330 CLS#0:a$="You take " & take & " from row " & row:centre 0,a$:PAUSE 150
340 LET nim(row)=nim(row)-take
350 END DEFine player
360 :
370 DEFine PROCedure ql
380 sum=0:CLS#0
390 FOR j=1 TO 5:sum=sum ^^ nim(j)
400 IF NOT sum THEN FOR j=1 TO 5:IF nim(j)THEN row=j:take=RND(1 TO nim(row)):GO
TO 470
410 FOR k=1 TO 8
420 FOR j=1 TO 5
430 IF nim(j)>=k AND sum>=k THEN row=j
440 NEXT j:NEXT k
450 take=nim(row) ^^ sum
460 take=ABS(nim(row)-take)
470 a$="I take " & take:centre 0,a$
480 a$="From row " & row:centre 0,a$
490 PAUSE 150
500 nim(row)=nim(row)-take
510 PAUSE 150
520 END DEFine ql
530 :
540 DEFine PROCedure centre (chan,a$)
550 LOCal j,k
560 j=37-LEN(a$)
570 FOR k=1 TO INT(j/2)
580 a$="(sp)" & a$
590 NEXT k
600 PRINT#chan,a$
610 RETurn
620 :
630 DEFine PROCedure display
640 CLS:BORDER 3,1,4
650 PRINT#3!"You"!pscore:AT 3,0,15:PRINT#3;"Me"!qlscore:AT#3,0,27:PRINT#3;"Playe
d"!pscore+qlscore
660 AT 3,0:
670 FOR j=1 TO 5
680 INK 6:PRINT j;"(2*sp)";:INK 7
690 IF nim(j)
700 FOR k=1 TO nim(j)
710 BLOCK 15,10,k*25,j*20+10,5
720 NEXT k
730 END IF
740 INK 3:CURSOR nim(j)*25+16,j*20+10:PRINT"[";nim(j);"]"\\:NEXT j
750 END DEFine display
760 :
770 DEFine PROCedure replay
780 display
790 centre 0," Another Game ?"
800 key$=INKEY$(-1)
810 IF key$=="y"THEN GO TO 170
820 CLS#0:centre 0,"O.K."
830 STOP
840 END DEFine replay
```

WINDOW SCROLLS



IMPROVE your arcade games with a machine code routine which enables you to scroll part of the screen in four different directions. **Window Scrolls** by Pete Cooke of Leicester allows you to emulate professional programmers and simulate windows on the Spectrum.

The routine occupies 217 bytes in all and is stored in locations starting at 30000, so it will fit into a 16K Spectrum. If you have a 48K machine you should change the addresses to a higher value if you intend to write a long program.

To use the routine as it is written, you should first define the size of the window by changing the numbers POKED in lines 120 to 150. At present the routine sets up a window 25 pixels by 50.

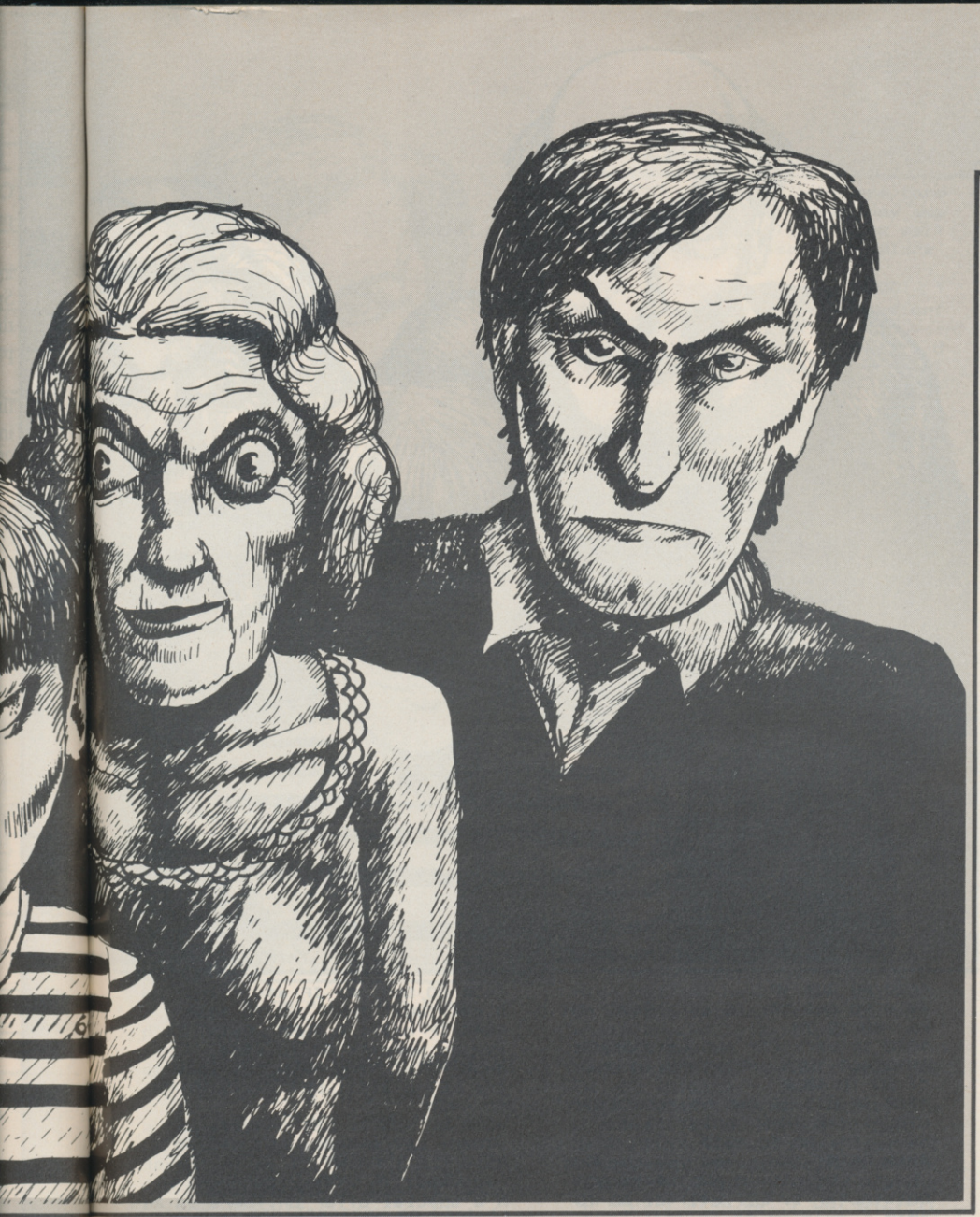
To control the scrolling, use the cursor keys. A game written using the program would thus be controlled by the cursor keys.

```
   1 REM Window scrolls
         in 4 directions
   2 REM  Pete cooke May 84
  10 CLEAR 30999: GO SUB 9500: R
EM poke in the data
 100 BORDER 1: PAPER 1: INK 7: C
LS : PRINT TAB 8;"Window scrolli
ng";TAB 8;"Demonstration"
 110 PRINT AT 4,8;"Use Keys 5-8"
 120 POKE 31214,5: REM  start x
 130 POKE 31215,5: REM start y
 140 POKE 31216,25: REM finishx
 150 POKE 31217,50: REM finishy
 200 PRINT AT 10,0;: FOR n=1 TO
76: PRINT "demo.";: NEXT n
 210 LET z$=INKEY$
 220 IF z$="6" THEN  LET v=USR 3
1003
 230 IF z$="7" THEN  LET v=USR 3
1000
 240 IF z$="5" THEN  LET v=USR 3
1006
 250 IF z$="8" THEN  LET v=USR 3
1009
 300 GO TO 210
8999 STOP
9000 DATA 195,36,121,195,82,121,
195,127,121,195
9010 DATA 165,121,221,33,238,121
,221,126,1,221
9020 DATA 70,3,128,197,245,205,2
00,121,125,221
9030 DATA 134,0,111,235,241,245,
61,205,200,121
9040 DATA 125,221,134,0,111,221,
78,2,6,0
9050 DATA 237,176,241,61,193,16,
222,201,221,33
9060 DATA 238,121,221,126,1,221,
70,3,197,245
9070 DATA 205,200,121,125,221,13
4,0,111,235,241
9080 DATA 245,60,205,200,121,125
,221,134,0,111
9090 DATA 221,78,2,6,0,237,176,2
41,60,193
9100 DATA 16,222,201,221,33,238,
121,221,126,1
9110 DATA 221,70,3,197,245,205,2
00,121,125,221
9120 DATA 134,0,221,134,2,111,22
1,70,2,183
9130 DATA 203,22,43,16,251,241,6
0,193,16,229
9140 DATA 201,221,33,238,121,221
,126,1,221,70
9150 DATA 3,197,245,205,200,121,
125,221,134,0
9160 DATA 111,221,70,2,183,203,3
0,35,16,251
9170 DATA 241,60,193,16,232,201,
213,33,0,0
9180 DATA 87,62,175,146,245,230,
7,103,241,245
9190 DATA 230,56,203,39,203,39,1
11,241,230,192
9200 DATA 203,63,203,63,203,63,1
32,103,17,0
9210 DATA 64,25,209,201,0,0,32,1
75
9500 CLS : PRINT AT 5,5;"Poking
in m/code";AT 7,5;"Please wait"
9510 LET total=0: RESTORE 9000:
FOR n=31000 TO 31217: READ a: LE
T total=total+a: POKE n,a
9520 NEXT n: IF total<>29511 THE
N  PRINT "Error in data."'"Do no
t run.": STOP
9530 RETURN
```

THE SPAWN of Satan, Damien Thorn, must be destroyed before he becomes powerful enough to take over the world. O Seaman of Chepstow in Gwent has written a text adventure program to allow you to do just that. A neat core program at lines 10–900 allows for large quantities of text. You will find it difficult to defeat Damien before falling prey to his demented followers, who are lurking everywhere to deceive and destroy you. Damien was written for the 48K Spectrum.

The program uses our special abbreviations for graphics characters, so please read the special instructions on the first page of Program Printout before typing in the program.

```
  1 GO TO 9000
  2 LET n=0: LET s=0: LET e=0:
LET w=0: LET u=0: LET d=0: RETUR
N
 10 PRINT '"Directions are:";("
North," AND n<>0);("South," AND
s<>0);("East," AND e<>0);("West,
" AND w<>0);("Up," AND u<>0);("D
own," AND d<>0);CHR$ 8;"(sp)"
 11 PRINT "I can see:"''
 12 LET fo=0: FOR q=1 TO 14: IF
 o(q)=line THEN  PRINT "A(sp)";o
$(q): LET fo=1
 13 NEXT q: IF fo=0 THEN  PRINT
 "Nothing"
 14 RETURN
 20 INPUT "What shall I do?(sp)
"; LINE q$
 21 IF q$="N" AND n<>0 THEN  LE
T line=n: GO TO line
 22 IF q$="S" AND s<>0 THEN  LE
T line=s: GO TO line
 23 IF q$="E" AND e<>0 THEN  LE
T line=e: GO TO line
 24 IF q$="W" AND w<>0 THEN  LE
T line=w: GO TO line
 25 IF q$="R" THEN  GO TO line
 26 IF q$="I" THEN  GO TO 900
 27 IF q$="U" AND u<>0 THEN  LE
T line=u: GO TO line
 28 IF q$="D" AND d<>0 THEN  LE
T line=d: GO TO line
 29 IF q$="U" OR Q$="D" OR Q$="
N" OR Q$="S" OR Q$="W" OR Q$="E"
 THEN  PRINT "I can't go that wa
y": GO TO 20
 30 IF Q$=" STOP " OR Q$="QUIT"
 THEN  GO TO 9990
 31 IF Q$="SAVE" THEN  GO TO 80
00
 32 IF Q$="LOAD" THEN  GO TO 85
00
 33 LET a$="": LET b$="": FOR q
=1 TO LEN q$
 34 IF q$(q)="(sp)" THEN  LET a
$=q$( TO q-1): LET b$=q$(q+1 TO
): GO TO 40
 35 NEXT q: PRINT "Huh?": GO TO
 20
 40 IF a$="PICK" OR a$="TAKE" T
HEN  GO TO 100
 45 IF a$<>"DROP" AND a$<>"PUT"
 THEN  RETURN
 50 FOR q=1 TO 14: IF b$=o$(q,
TO LEN b$) THEN  GO TO 60
 55 NEXT q: PRINT a$;"(sp)what?
": GO TO 20
 60 LET o(q)=line: PRINT "O.K.(
sp)": GO TO 20
 100 FOR q=1 TO 14: IF b$=o$(q,
TO LEN b$) THEN  GO TO 120
 110 NEXT q: PRINT a$;"(sp)what?
": GO TO 20
 120 IF o(q)<>line THEN  PRINT "
I can't see it here(sp)": GO TO
20
 130 LET o(q)=0: PRINT "O.K.": G
O TO 20
 900 PRINT ''"I have with me :"'
'
 910 LET fo=0: FOR q=1 TO 14: IF
 o(q)=0 THEN  PRINT "A(sp)";o$(q
): LET fo=1
 920 NEXT q: IF fo=0 THEN  PRINT
 "Nothing"
 925 IF o(6)=0 THEN  PRINT "And(
sp)";o(15);"(sp)bullet";("s" AND
 o(15)>1)
 930 GO TO 20
1000 GO SUB 2: LET n=1700: LET w
=1100: LET e=1200
1010 CLS : PRINT "I am outside a
 large mansion.(3*sp)West is a c
hurch,East is the(4*sp)mansion d
oor"
1020 GO SUB 10
1030 GO SUB 20: GO TO 1030
1100 GO SUB 2: LET e=1000
1110 CLS : PRINT "There is a pri
est here.He says:"''" Welcome.I
know why you are hereand I know
you are our only hopefor salvati
on.The beast is once more among
the world of men.I(3*sp)know he
is near.There are many(sp)"
1120 PRINT "of his disciples amo
ng us.You(3*sp)must kill him whi
le he is still a baby and is pow
erless.However only the holy kni
ves can kill "
1130 PRINT "him.Yet the powers o
f God have(sp)prepared well and
somewhere nearby is the knives.M
ay you have(3*sp)God's Holy bles
sing on your(5*sp)Quest."
1135 IF O(1)<>37 THEN  GO TO 115
0
1140 POKE 23692,0: PRINT '"He re
aches into the church(6*sp)resto
ration fund and gives me £5which
 I take."'''
1141 LET o(1)=0
1145 PRINT )0;"Press a key": PAU
SE 1: PAUSE 0
1150 GO SUB 10
1160 GO SUB 20: GO TO 1160
1200 IF o(13)<>0 THEN  CLS : PRI
NT "The door is locked-You canno
t(3*sp)enter.": INPUT "Press ENT
ER"; LINE q$: LET line=1000: GO
TO 1000
1201 CLS : PRINT "I am in the ma
nsion.There is a(2*sp)wild dog t
hat is about to eat(3*sp)me."
1210 INPUT "What shall I use aga
inst it?(sp)"' LINE q$
1220 IF q$<>"LAMB" THEN  CLS : P
RINT "He has ignored me and eate
n me!": GO TO 9900
1230 PRINT "The dog is eating th
e meat-if I hurry I can get East
 unharmed"
1240 INPUT "Press ENTER to go Ea
st"; LINE q$: LET line=1300: GO
```

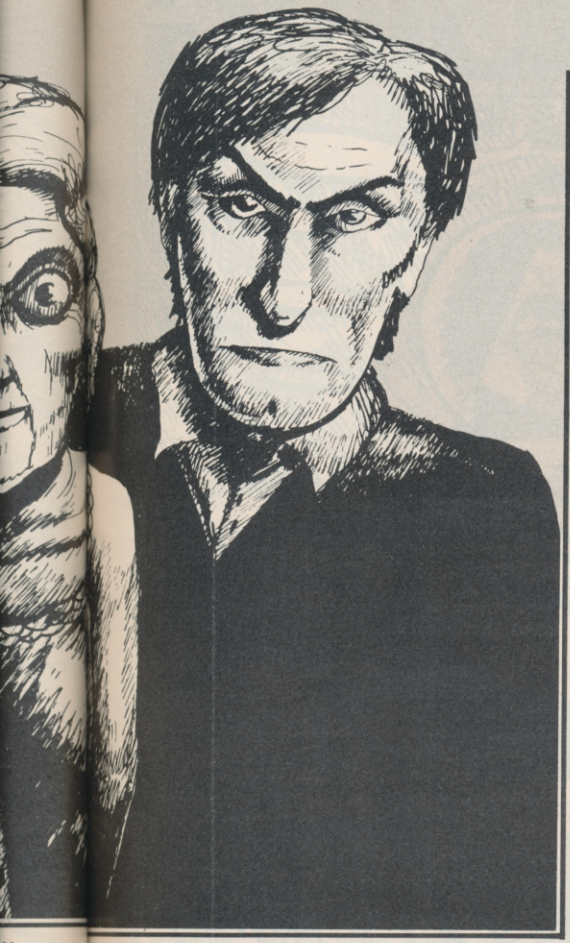


```
TO 1300
1300 CLS : PRINT "Damien's nurse
 has seen me,and(sp)guessed what
 I am about to do.(2*sp)She is c
oming at me with a(6*sp)poker!"
1310 INPUT "What shall I use aga
inst her?(sp)"' LINE q$
1320 IF q$<>"GUN" THEN  CLS : PR
INT "She has killed me!!": GO TO
 9900
1330 PRINT '"I shot and killed h
er-I may now proceed East"
1340 INPUT "Press ENTER to go Ea
st"; LINE q$: LET line=1400: GO
TO 1400
1400 CLS : PRINT "I can see Dami
en in his cot.He(2*sp)has see me
.He has stood up-he isbigger tha
n I thought-to(8*sp)strangle me"
1410 INPUT "What shall I use aga
inst him?(sp)"' LINE q$
1420 IF q$<>"KNIVES" THEN  CLS :
 PRINT "He has killed me!!": GO
TO 9900
1430 CLS : PRINT "Success!!YOU H
AVE KILLED DAMIEN"'"You have des
troyed the anti-(4*sp)christ and
 so are the saviour of the world
!!"
1440 GO TO 9990
1500 GO SUB 2: LET E=1600
1510 CLS : PRINT "I can see a gr
ave"
1520 GO SUB 10
1530 GO SUB 20
1540 IF a$<>"DIG" THEN  GO TO 15
30
1545 IF o(7)<>0 THEN  PRINT "Wha
t with?": GO TO 1530
1550 CLS : PRINT "I dug up the g
rave and out of itflew 13 black
ravens,who have(3*sp)killed me!"
: GO TO 9900
1600 GO SUB 2: LET n=1800: LET w
=1500: LET e=1700
1610 CLS : PRINT "I can see a gr
ave.Also,on it is enscribed 'Her
e lies Mrs Thorn'"
1620 GO SUB 10
1630 GO SUB 20
1640 IF a$<>"DIG" THEN  GO TO 16
30
1645 IF o(7)<>0 THEN  PRINT "Wha
t with?": GO TO 1630
1650 PRINT '"I dug up the grave
and found theskeleton of a jacka
l!": GO TO 1630
1700 GO SUB 2: LET w=1600: LET n
=1900: LET s=1000
1710 CLS : PRINT "I am at the ed
ge of a graveyard to my West."
1720 GO SUB 10
1730 GO SUB 20: GO TO 1730
1800 GO SUB 2: LET s=1600
1810 CLS : PRINT "I can see a gr
ave"
1820 GO SUB 10
1830 GO SUB 20
1840 IF a$<>"DIG" THEN  GO TO 18
30
1845 IF o(7)<>0 THEN  PRINT "Wha
t with?": GO TO 1830
1850 LET O(10)=0: PRINT '"I dug
up the grave to find a(4*sp)skel
eton.I noticed a cross that it w
as holding.I picked it up": GO T
O 1830
1900 GO SUB 2: LET n=2000: LET s
=1700
1910 CLS : PRINT "I am on a Nort
h/South road(6*sp)leading to a s
eedy town"
1920 GO SUB 10
1930 GO SUB 20: GO TO 1930
2000 GO SUB 2: LET n=2100: LET s
=1900
2010 CLS : PRINT "I can see an o
ld beggar pleadingfor some money
.I am still on theroad"
2020 GO SUB 10
2030 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN  GO TO 2030
2035 IF o(1)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I d
on't have the money!!": GO TO 20
30
2040 PRINT '"The beggar said 'Th
ankyou' and  ran off!!": LET o(1
)=1: GO TO 2030
2100 GO SUB 2: LET N=2400: LET s
=2000
2110 CLS : PRINT "I am on a Nort
h/South road"
2120 GO TO 1020
2200 GO SUB 2: LET n=2299: LET s
=2299: LET e=2300
2210 CLS : PRINT "I am at the en
d of the path.(4*sp)North and So
uth are swamp,but(3*sp)North I c
an see a glistening"
2220 GO TO 1020
2299 CLS : PRINT "I sank in the
swamp!!": GO TO 9900
2300 GO SUB 2: LET e=2400: LET w
=2200
2310 CLS : PRINT "I am on a path
"
2320 GO TO 1020
2400 GO SUB 2: LET n=3200: LET s
=2100: LET e=2500: LET w=2300
2410 CLS : PRINT "I am on a cros
sroads"
2420 GO TO 1020
2500 GO SUB 2: LET e=2600: LET w
=2400: GO TO 2310
2600 GO SUB 2: LET e=3000: LET w
=2500: LET s=2700
2610 CLS : PRINT "I am on a path
.South is a beggar": GO TO 1020
2700 GO SUB 2: LET n=2600
2710 CLS : PRINT "There is a Beg
gar here.He says(2*sp)he will se
ll you a Red Crystal(2*sp)for on
ly £5"
2720 GO SUB 10
2730 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN  GO TO 2730
2735 IF o(1)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I d
on't have any money": GO TO 2730
2740 PRINT "He has given me the
crystal and takes £5"
2750 LET o(1)=1: LET o(8)=0: GO
TO 2730
2900 GO SUB 2: LET s=3000
2910 CLS : PRINT "There is an ol
d grave-digger(4*sp)here who say
s he'll give me his spade in ret
urn for £5 or some(2*sp)silver"
2920 GO SUB 10
2930 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN  GO TO 2930
2935 IF b$<>"£5" AND b$<>"SILVER
" THEN  PRINT "Give him what?":
GO TO 2930
2940 IF b$="£5" AND o(1)<>0 THEN
  PRINT "I don't have £5": GO TO
 2930
2950 IF b$="SILVER" AND o(5)<>0
THEN  PRINT "I don't have any si
lver": GO TO 2930
2960 PRINT "He says 'O.K.' and g
ives you hisspade"
2970 LET o(7)=0: LET o(1+(4 AND
b$="SILVER"))=1: GO TO 2930
```

continued on page 120

continued from page 119

```
3000 GO SUB 2: LET n=2900: LET s
=3100: LET w=2600
3010 CLS : PRINT "I am at the en
d of the path.(4*sp)North is an
old man,South is a(2*sp)tall fig
ure."
3020 GO TO 1020
3100 GO SUB 2: LET n=3000
3110 CLS : PRINT "There is a tal
l figure here who has given me a
 Black Crystal!!!"
3120 LET o(9)=0: GO TO 1020
3200 GO SUB 2: LET n=3300: LET s
=2400: GO TO 2110
3300 GO SUB 2: LET n=3400: LET s
=3200
3310 CLS : PRINT "To my North is
 the start of a(3*sp)city.": GO
TO 1020
3400 GO SUB 2: LET N=3500: LET S
=3300
3405 IF O(16)=123 THEN  CLS : PR
INT "I am on a N/S road,there is
 a(3*sp)dead man on the road": G
O TO 1020
3410 CLS : PRINT "There is a man
 here with an axe.He looks dange
rous!."
3420 INPUT "Shall I attempt hand
-to-axe(5*sp)combat,or retreat S
outh? (F/R)"; LINE q$
3430 IF q$="R" THEN  LET line=s:
 GO TO line
3440 LET o(16)=123: PRINT ''"He
swiped at me with his axe.I  duc
ked,and kicked him in the(4*sp)s
hin.He reeled,fell,and died.(3*s
p)There is now an axe on the(6*s
p)ground."
3450 LET O(2)=LINE: GO TO 1020
3500 GO SUB 2: LET n=3800: LET s
=3400: LET w=3600: LET e=3700
3510 CLS : PRINT "I am on a main
 N/S road.West is a flimsy woode
n door,East is a  strong door wi
th a red knocker."
3520 GO TO 1020
3600 CLS : PRINT "I managed to b
reak through the(2*sp)door,to fi
nd a man,who said 'Howdare you b
reak my door down!'.Hethen shot
me!!"
3610 GO TO 9900
3700 GO SUB 2: LET w=3500
3710 CLS : PRINT "There is a tal
l robed figure(4*sp)here who tel
ls me I can only go East if I gi
ve him a Red Crystal"
3720 GO SUB 10
3730 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN  GO TO 3730
3740 IF o(8)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I d
on't have a Red Crystal": GO TO
3730
3750 PRINT ''"He said 'Thankyou'
 and cackled alittle.I went East
 to find 13(3*sp)Devil Worshippe
rs,who killed me!!": GO TO 9900
3800 GO SUB 2: LET w=3899: LET e
=3900: LET n=4500: LET s=3500
3810 CLS : PRINT "To my East is
an alleyway,and(3*sp)West is a f
limsy wooden door"
3820 GO TO 1020
3899 PRINT "I broke down the doo
r to find a ring of chain smoker
s,who(7*sp)offered me a puff.I a
ccepted andwished I hadn't": GO
TO 9900
3900 GO SUB 2: LET N=4600: LET E
=4000: LET W=3800
3910 CLS : PRINT "I am in a seed
y alley.North is(2*sp)a flimsy w
ooden door."
3920 GO TO 1020
4000 GO SUB 2: LET N=4100: LET e
=4200: LET w=3900
4010 CLS : PRINT "Here is a Begg
ar who asks me fora black crysta
l or £5 in return for a Red key.
"
4020 GO SUB 10
4030 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN  GO TO 20
4040 IF b$<>"£5" AND b$<>"BLACK
CRYSTAL" THEN  PRINT "Give what?
": GO TO 4030
4050 IF o(1+(8 AND b$="BLACK CRY
STAL"))<>0 THEN  PRINT "I don't
have it": GO TO 4030
4060 PRINT "He gives you the Red
 Key": LET o(1+(8 AND b$="BLACK
CRYSTAL"))=1: LET o(4)=0: GO TO
4030
4100 GO SUB 2: LET s=4000
4110 CLS : PRINT "I am at the en
d of an alleyway"
4115 IF o(5)=4100 THEN  PRINT "I
 can see,lying in a bin,a largep
iece of silver!!"
4120 GO TO 1020
4200 GO SUB 2: LET e=4300: LET w
=4000
4210 CLS : PRINT "I am still in
this alley.To the East is a shor
t robed figure.": GO TO 1020
4300 GO SUB 2: LET w=4200
4310 CLS : PRINT "There is a sho
rt figure with a(2*sp)gun about
to shoot me!"
4320 INPUT "Which object shall I
 use againsthim? "; LINE q$: IF
q$<>"AXE" THEN  PRINT ''"No use
- He has shot me!": GO TO 9900
4330 PRINT ''"(sp)He fired a sho
t at me,but I(4*sp)deflected it
with my axe.He(5*sp)pulled the t
rigger again but I  threw the ax
e at him,which(6*sp)cleaved his
skull.He has left(3*sp)his gun a
nd its four remaining bullets on
 the ground."
4340 GO TO 1020
4400 GO SUB 2: LET E=4500
4410 CLS : PRINT "I am in a Butc
hers.They have a(2*sp)special of
fer on - a leg of lambfor only £
5!!"
4420 GO SUB 10
4430 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" AN
D a$<>"BUY" THEN  GO TO 4430
4440 IF o(1)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I h
ave no money": GO TO 4430
4450 PRINT "You have the lamb(sp
)": LET o(1)=1: LET o(11)=0: GO
TO 4430
4500 GO SUB 2: LET n=4800: LET s
=3800: LET w=4400: LET d=5700
4510 CLS : PRINT "I am in the st
reet.West is a(4*sp)Butchers wit
h a special offer on.There is an
 open manhole below. It looks a
bit dark!"
4520 GO TO 1020
4600 GO SUB 2: LET s=3900
4610 CLS : PRINT "I am in a shed
.On the wall is(3*sp)painted '66
6'.Lying on the(6*sp)ground is a
 yellow key": GO TO 1020
4700 GO SUB 2: LET e=4800
4710 CLS : PRINT "I am in a gard
ening shop.There(2*sp)is a naggi
ng old woman here.She says eithe
r buy something or(4*sp)leave.Th
ey seem to be a bit low on stock
 at the moment-they onlyhave a s
pade,selling for £5"
4720 INPUT "Do you want to buy i
t (Y/N)"; LINE q$
4725 IF q$="" THEN  GO TO 4720
4730 IF q$(1)<>"Y" THEN  GO TO 1
020
4735 IF o(1)<>0 THEN  PRINT '"I
don't have £5": GO TO 1020
4740 LET o(1)=1: LET o(7)=0: GO
TO 1020
4800 GO SUB 2: LET n=5100: LET s
=4500: LET w=4700: LET e=4900
4810 CLS : PRINT "I am still in
this seedy town.(2*sp)West is a
gardening shop,East isa door wit
h a black knocker on. It says 'P
lease Knock'.": GO TO 1020
4900 GO SUB 2: LET w=4800
4910 CLS : PRINT "I am in a larg
e dusty house.(4*sp)There is a c
loaked figure who(3*sp)says I ca
n go East through a biglocked do
```



```
or only on receipt of a Black Cr
ystal."
4920 GO SUB 10
4930 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN  GO TO 4930
4940 IF o(9)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I d
on't have a black crystal": GO T
O 4930
4950 PRINT "He says 'Ta' and rev
iels a bunchof keys with which h
e unlocks(3*sp)the door.It creak
s open.I can(3*sp)now go East.":
 GO TO 4930
5000 CLS : PRINT "I walked throu
gh the door to(4*sp)find a meeti
ng of software(6*sp)writers.They
 grabbed and bound meOne of them
 said 'I could write a game arou
nd this.'He showed mea gun he di
signed for one of hisgames.It re
ally worked-he tried it out on m
e.": GO TO 9900
5100 GO SUB 2: LET w=5150: LET e
=5200: LET n=5500: LET s=4800
5110 CLS : PRINT "To my East is
a red door,West isa yellow door.
"
5120 GO TO 1020
5150 IF o(3)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I d
o not have the key to unlock the
 door(sp)": GO TO 1030
5160 CLS : PRINT "I have found a
 bunch of men(5*sp)sacrificing a
 pig.I felt sorry(2*sp)for it an
d so hit and knocked(3*sp)out th
e men.The pig was so happythat i
t jumped up on me and(5*sp)suffo
cated me!!": GO TO 9900
5200 IF o(4)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I d
o not have the key to unlock the
 door(sp)": GO TO 1020
5205 GO SUB 2: LET n=5400: LET e
=5300: LET w=5100
5210 CLS : PRINT "I am in a dark
 hallway.North andEast are rooms
 in which(9*sp)ceremonies seem t
o be taking(4*sp)place."
5220 GO TO 1020
5300 GO SUB 2
5310 CLS : PRINT "There are thre
e devil worshippershere.They see
m to want to(7*sp)sacrifice me.T
he high priest hasa small Black
key."
5320 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"SHOOT" T
HEN  PRINT "They have burned me!
!": GO TO 9900
5321 IF o(15)<3 THEN  PRINT "I d
on't have enough bullets for all
 of them.They seem to have(3*sp)
boiled me!": GO TO 9900
5325 IF o(6)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I d
on't have a gun.They seem to hav
e boiled me!": GO TO 9900
5330 PRINT '"I fired 3 shots at
them,killing them all.There is n
ow a Black(3*sp)key lying on the
 ground"
5340 LET w=5200: LET o(15)=o(15)
-3: LET o(12)=line: GO TO 1020
5400 CLS : PRINT "I entered the
room.There was a(2*sp)strange ma
n who promptly locked the door b
ehind me.He offered mea drink (a
t gunpoint).I drank itand,all of
 a sudden,I seemed to grow small
er!When I was about 10inches hig
h,I heard him say 'It works'.I s
hrank another foot,and there was
 nothing left of me!": GO TO 990
0
5500 GO SUB 2: LET w=5600: LET s
=5100
5510 CLS : PRINT "I am at the en
d (at last) of thelong road I ha
ve been walking(3*sp)down.To my
West I can see an oldman": GO TO
 1020
5600 GO SUB 2: LET e=5500
5610 CLS : PRINT "I can see an o
ld man.He says to me 'That is a
nice axe you have there.You woul
dn't want to swap it for an old
white key,would(3*sp)you?'"
5620 GO SUB 10
5630 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"GIVE" TH
EN  GO TO 5630
5640 IF o(2)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I d
on't have an axe.": GO TO 5630
5650 PRINT "I told him I would d
o the swap. He agreed,took my ax
e,gave me(3*sp)the white key,and
 promptly blew up!": LET o(2)=1:
 LET o(13)=0: GO TO 5630
5700 GO SUB 2: LET u=4500: LET n
=5800
5710 CLS : PRINT "I am in a smel
ly sewer,at the(3*sp)bottom of a
 ladder.": GO TO 1020
5800 GO SUB 2: LET n=5900: LET s
=5700
5810 CLS : PRINT "I am in an und
erground,dark,damp,smelly,drippi
ng,rat infested(3*sp)tunnel.(It
isn't nice).": GO TO 1020
5900 GO SUB 2: LET s=5800
5910 CLS : PRINT "I am at the en
d of the tunnel.I have found a w
hite door with a(2*sp)metal cros
s on the door.It is(3*sp)locked.
"
5920 GO SUB 10
5930 GO SUB 20: IF a$<>"UNLOCK"
THEN  GO TO 5930
5940 IF o(13)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I
don't have the key to unlock(2*s
p)it with": GO TO 5930
5950 PRINT "I have unlocked the
door.I can(2*sp)now go East.": L
ET e=6000: GO TO 5920
6000 GO SUB 2
6010 CLS : PRINT "Here is a towe
ring figure.He(4*sp)looks grueso
me.Help!"
6020 GO SUB 20: IF b$<>"CROSS" T
HEN  PRINT "He covered me in his
 cloak and- I disappeared!!": GO
 TO 9900
6030 IF o(10)<>0 THEN  PRINT "I
dont have a cross(worst luck).He
 covered me in his cloak and- I
disappeared!!": GO TO 9900
6040 PRINT "He cowers back and l
ets me past.": LET w=5900: LET n
=6100: GO TO 1020
6100 GO SUB 2: LET n=6200: LET s
=6000
6110 CLS : PRINT "I am in a corr
idor between 2(4*sp)doors.": GO
TO 1020
6200 GO SUB 2: LET s=6100
6210 CLS : PRINT "There is a man
 here,who gives mesome pretty kn
ives.He says they are the only t
hings that will(3*sp)kill Damien
,and then only if notat all soil
ed by killing(8*sp)anything else
.": GO TO 1020
8000 CLS : PRINT "SAVE - Prepare
 tape"
8010 LET o(16)=line
8020 SAVE "D-CODE"+STR$ line DAT
A o()
8030 CLS : PRINT "VERIFY - Press
 Y(es) or N(o) "
8040 IF INKEY$="N" THEN  GO TO 1
ine
8050 IF INKEY$<>"Y" THEN  GO TO
8040
8060 PRINT '''"If you get an"'"'
R Tape Loading Error"'"Then typ
e 'GOTO G'"'"(Press 'G' twice,&
ENTER)"'''"Press any key when re
ady."
8070 IF INKEY$="" THEN  GO TO 80
70
8080 LET g=8090: VERIFY "D-CODE"
+STR$ line DATA o(): GO TO line
8090 CLS : PRINT "Options:"'''"1
 Reverify"'"2 Resave"'"3 Quit"''
"Press option"
8100 LET w$=INKEY$: IF w$>"3" OR
 w$<"1" THEN  GO TO 8100
8110 IF w$="1" THEN  GO TO 8030
8120 IF w$="2" THEN  GO TO 8000
8130 GO TO line
8500 CLS : PRINT "LOADING - Pres
s a key when ready"
8510 IF INKEY$="" THEN  GO TO 85
10
8520 DIM o(16): LOAD "" DATA o()
: LET line=o(16): GO TO line
9000 BORDER 1: INK 7: PAPER 1: F
LASH 0: BRIGHT 0: OVER 0: INVERS
E 0: CLEAR
9010 PRINT "(10sp)WELCOME TO(sp)
"
9020 PRINT '''"(3*sp,ig4,g3,ig7,s
p,ig6,g3,ig7,sp,ig1,g4,ig5,sp,g3
,ig4,g2,sp,ig4,g3,g2,sp,ig1,sp,i
g5,9*sp,ig5,sp,ig5,sp,ig4,g3,ig5
,sp,ig5,g2,ig5,2*sp,ig5,2*sp,ig4
,g3,2*sp,ig5,g6,ig5,9*sp,2*g3,2*
sp,g2,sp,g2,sp,g2,sp,g2,sp,2*g3,
g2,sp,2*g3,g2,sp,g2,sp,g2)"
9030 PRINT '''" You must destroy
 Damien,Son of the Devil,while h
e is still a(3*sp)baby and is th
us relatively(5*sp)powerless."
9040 PRINT '''"Press any Key to
start"
9050 IF INKEY$="" THEN  GO TO 90
50
9055 POKE 23658,8: PRINT AT 16,0
,,
9060 DIM o$(14,13): DIM o(16): L
ET O(15)=4
9070 RESTORE 9100: FOR q=1 TO 14
: READ o$(q),o(q): NEXT q
9080 LET line=1000: GO TO line
9100 DATA "£5",37,"AXE",1,"YELLO
W KEY",4600,"RED KEY",1,"SILVER"
,4100,"GUN",4300,"SPADE",1,"RED
CRYSTAL",3100,"BLACK CRYSTAL",1,
"CROSS",1,"LAMB",2,"BLACK KEY",1
,"WHITE KEY",8,"KNIVES",6200
9900 PRINT '''"Bad luck - Have an
other go"
9990 INPUT "Press ENTER to repla
y,or 'NO' toclear this program o
ut(sp)"' LINE q$: IF q$="NO" THE
N  RANDOMIZE USR 0
9991 RUN
```

ALIEN LANDING

HERE THEY come again, those awful aliens, spreading gloom, destruction, and obscure skin diseases all over the world. Will they succeed? Never — not while you are at the controls, at any rate. Use keys 5 and 8 to move your laser base and 0 to launch missiles at the horrible foe.

Alien Landing was written by Howard Ramsay of Glasgow for the ZX-81 with 16K. Howard says he would be thrilled if we publish his program. We hope the aliens are too.

```
  1 REM  ALIEN LANDING
  5 LET B$="■"
  6 LET C$="▀"
 10 SLOW
 90 LET HS=0
100 REM  INSTRUCTIONS
110 FOR F=1 TO 22
120 PRINT "                                
                                "
130 NEXT F
140 PRINT AT 0,0;"                        
";AT 1,0;"  ALIEN LANDING  ";
AT 2,0;"  BY HOWARD RAMSAY  "
150 PRINT AT 3,0;"                        
                                "
170 PRINT AT 5,3;"WELCOME TO AL
IEN LANDING."
180 PRINT AT 7,2;"                        
                                "
190 PRINT AT 9,0;" THE OBJECT
OF THIS GAME IS TO  PREVENT THE
ALIEN (";B$;")  FROM      LANDING
 ON YOUR BASE (■■■■■),YOU  DO THIS
 BY FIRING YOUR MISSILE      AT IT
 (▀), EACH TIME YOU       MANAGE
 TO SHOOT ONE DOWN YOU    PROGRE
SS TO A MORE DIFFICULT    LEVEL.
"
195 PRINT AT 17,0;"  DO YOU WAN
T TO TYPE IN A       CHARACTER F
OR THE ALIEN (Y) OR  USE THE PRE
VIOUSLY MENTIONED    ONE (N)."
196 LET Z$=INKEY$
197 IF Z$<>"N" AND Z$<>"Y" THEN
GOTO 196
198 IF Z$="N" THEN GOTO 202
199 INPUT B$
200 IF LEN B$<>1 THEN GOTO 199
201 PRINT AT 10,20;B$
202 PRINT AT 17,0;"  DO YOU WAN
T TO TYPE IN YOUR    OWN CHARACT
ER FOR THE MISSLE    (Y) OR USE
THIS (I)  (N)."
203 LET X$=INKEY$
204 IF X$<>"N" AND X$<>"Y" THEN
GOTO 203
205 IF X$="N" THEN GOTO 209
206 INPUT C$
207 IF LEN C$<>1 THEN GOTO 206
210 FOR F=17 TO 21
211 PRINT AT F,0;"                        
                                "
212 NEXT F
218 PRINT AT 20,3;"PRESS A KEY
TO CONT..."
219 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 219
220 FOR F=6 TO 15
230 PRINT AT F,0;"                        
                                "
240 NEXT F
250 PRINT AT 5,0;"  YOU START W
ITH THREE LIVES.  BUT YOU LOSE
 A LIFE EVERY TIME AN ALIEN LAN
DS, YOU GET AN      EXTRA LIFE F
OR EVERY TWO        ALIENS YOU S
HOOT DOWN."
260 PRINT AT 11,0;"  USE THE FO
LLOWING KEYS..."
270 PRINT AT 12,4;"5-LEFT";AT 1
2,14;"8-RIGHT";AT 14,4;"0-FIRE"
AT 14,14;"1-ABORT"
275 PRINT AT 16,0;"  USE KEYS 5
+8 TO GUIDE YOUR     MISSILE."
280 PRINT AT 20,18;"PLAY..."
290 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 290
500 REM  DEFINE VARIABLES
510 LET A=3
520 LET B=INT (RND*29)+2
530 LET C=20
540 LET D=12
550 LET E=.1
560 LET LF=3
570 LET SC=0
580 LET Z=0
700 REM  PLAY
710 FOR F=1 TO 22
720 SCROLL
730 PRINT AT 21,0;"                       
                                "
740 NEXT F
741 FOR F=1 TO 21
742 PRINT AT F,0;"■";AT F,31;"■
"
743 NEXT F
744 PRINT AT 0,0;"                        
                                ";AT 21,0;"■
                                ■"
745 PRINT AT 2,1;"                        
                                "
750 PRINT AT 20,1;"                       
                                "
755 PRINT AT 1,1;"SCORE=";SC;TA
B 11;"LIVES=";LF;AT 1,19;"HI-SCO
RE=";HS
760 PRINT AT A,B;B$;AT A,B;"■"
770 PRINT AT C,D;"▄ ▄"
775 IF A>19 THEN GOTO 2000
780 IF RND<E THEN GOSUB 900
785 IF B>29 THEN LET B=1
790 LET B=B+1
800 LET D=D+(INKEY$="8")-(INKEY
$="5")
805 IF INKEY$="0" THEN GOSUB 10
00
810 IF D=27 THEN LET D=D-1
820 GOTO 760
900 REM  STAGGER ALIEN
910 LET A=A+1
920 LET B=B+1
925 IF B>29 THEN LET B=1
927 IF A>19 THEN GOTO 2000
930 RETURN
1000 REM  FIRE
1010 LET P=D+2
1020 LET Q=19
1030 PRINT AT Q,P;C$;AT Q,P;"■"
1032 PRINT AT C,D;"▄ ▄"
1033 IF D=27 THEN LET D=26
1035 LET Q=Q-1
1040 LET A$=INKEY$
1045 LET P=P-(A$="5")+(A$="8")
1047 LET D=D-(A$="5")+(A$="8")
1048 IF A$="1" THEN GOTO 1500
1050 LET B=B+1
1060 IF B>29 THEN LET B=2
1070 PRINT AT A,B;B$;AT A,B;"■"
1080 IF RND<E THEN GOSUB 900
1090 IF A=Q AND (B=P OR B=P+1 OR
 B=P-1) THEN GOTO 1500
1110 IF Q<A THEN RETURN
1120 GOTO 1030
1500 PRINT AT Q,P;"▒";AT Q,P;"■
";AT Q,P;"■";AT Q,P;"▪";AT Q,P;"▪
";AT Q,P;"▪";AT Q,P;"▪";AT Q,P;"
▪";AT Q,P;"■";AT Q,P;"■"
1503 IF A$="1" THEN GOTO 760
1505 PRINT AT Q,P;"■";AT Q,P;"■
";AT Q,P;"▒";AT 2,P;"O";AT Q,P;"■
"
1510 LET SC=SC+(21-A)+10
1520 LET Z=Z+1
1530 IF Z=2 THEN LET LF=LF+1
1535 IF Z=2 THEN LET Z=0
1540 LET E=E+.1
1550 PRINT AT 1,7;SC
1551 LET A=3
1552 LET B=INT (RND*29)+2
1553 IF SC>HS THEN LET HS=SC
1554 LET D=12
1560 GOTO 710
2000 REM  LF-1
2005 LET E=E-.1
2010 LET LF=LF-1
2020 LET A=3
2025 LET D=12
2030 LET B=INT (RND*29)+2
2040 IF LF>0 THEN GOTO 700
2050 PRINT AT 1,1;"                GAM
E OVER                          "
2060 FOR F=1 TO 20
2070 PRINT AT 20,1;"                      
                                ";AT 20,1;"■
                                "
2080 NEXT F
2090 PRINT AT 20,1;"                      
                                "
2100 PRINT AT 5,5;"ANOTHER GAME
(Y/N)?"
2110 LET A$=INKEY$
2120 IF A$="" THEN GOTO 2110
2130 IF A$="Y" THEN GOTO 500
2140 PRINT AT 7,8;"SURE (Y/N)?"
2150 LET A$=INKEY$
2160 IF A$="" THEN GOTO 2150
2170 IF A$="N" THEN GOTO 500
2180 NEW
8000 SAVE "ALIEN LANDIN■"
8010 RUN
```

OLYMPICS

BECOME THE second greatest athlete in the world in a gruelling four-event schedule. In the long jump you must press 'J' when you are told to jump. In the Shot Put press 'S' to start and 'T' to throw. In the 100 metres sprint press 'Z' and 'X' alternately to run. In the 400 metres hurdles you must press 'J' to jump.

Your best efforts will be displayed at the end along with your total score. Save the program with the command RUN 9000.

Olympics was written for the 16K ZX-81 by K Snowdon of Dunston in Tyne and Wear.

```
  1 LET T5=0
  2 GOSUB 1000
  3 LET B=0
  4 LET L=3
  5 PRINT AT 21,0;A$
  6 LET C=0
 10 FOR N=31 TO 6 STEP -2
 20 PRINT AT 20,N;"▟ "
 30 GOTO 510
100 FOR S=1 TO 5
110 NEXT S
120 RETURN
510 PRINT AT 14,3;"▒";AT 15,3;"
▛";AT 17,4;" ";AT 20,1;" ";AT 19
,1;"▟";AT 19,2;"▀";AT 17,1;" ";A
T 18,2;" ";AT 17,2;"▙";AT 20,5;"
 ";AT 20,4;"▙";AT 19,4;"▜";AT 18
,3;"▙";AT 16,4;" ";AT 16,3;"▀";A
T 16,2;"▟"
520 PRINT AT 20,4;" ";AT 20,3;"
▙";AT 19,4;" ";AT 19,3;"▛";AT 18
,3;"▙";AT 19,1;" ";AT 19,2;"▜";A
T 16,3;"▙";AT 17,4;"▀";AT 16,2;"
 ";AT 17,2;"▀"
521 PRINT AT 20,N-1;"▜  "
522 PRINT AT 20,3;" ";AT 20,1;"
▙";AT 19,3;" ";AT 19,1;"▗";AT 19
,1;"▗";AT 17,1;"▜";AT 17,2;" ";A
T 18,2;"▗";AT 16,3;"▜";AT 19,2;"
▀";AT 18,2;"▗";AT 16,2;"▗";AT 18
,3;"▙";AT 17,3;"▛";AT 16,3;"▜";A
T 15,3;"▛";AT 14,3;"▒";AT 19,4;"
▙";AT 16,4;"▀";AT 20,4;" ";AT 20
,5;"▙"
530 PRINT AT 20,N-1;"    "
540 NEXT N
542 IF INKEY$="J" THEN GOTO 780
550 PRINT AT 21,5;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚"
560 FOR C=1 TO 100
570 IF INKEY$="J" THEN GOTO 600
580 NEXT C
600 PRINT AT 18,2;" ";AT 19,1;"
 ";AT 16,3;"▙";AT 20,1;" ";AT 20
,2;"▀";AT 19,2;"▄";AT 19,3;"▜";A
T 18,3;"▛";AT 18,4;"▗";AT 19,4;"
▜";AT 20,5;" ";AT 20,4;"▙";AT 17
,1;" ";AT 17,2;" ";AT 16,2;"▗";A
T 17,4;"▀";AT 16,4;" ";AT 15,4;"
▗"
605 PRINT AT 21,4;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚"
610 PRINT AT 20,2;" ";AT 16,2;"
 ";AT 17,2;" ";AT 20,3;"▙";AT 19
,3;"▛";AT 19,2;"▜";AT 17,4;"▄";A
T 15,4;"▗";AT 20,4;" ";AT 19,4;"
 ";AT 18,4;"▗";AT 18,3;"▙"
615 PRINT AT 21,3;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚"
620 PRINT AT 16,4;" ";AT 20,3;"
 ";AT 19,3;"▗";AT 19,2;"▀";AT 18
,2;"▜";AT 18,3;"▗";AT 17,3;"▙";A
T 15,3;"▛";AT 14,3;"▛";AT 13,3;"
▒";AT 14,4;"▗";AT 17,4;" ";AT 16
,4;" ";AT 18,4;" "
626 PRINT AT 21,2;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚"
630 PRINT AT 16,4;" ";AT 20,3;"
 ";AT 19,3;"▗";AT 19,2;"▀";AT 18
,2;"▜";AT 18,3;"▗";AT 17,3;"▙";A
T 15,3;"▛";AT 14,3;"▛";AT 13,3;"
▒";AT 14,4;"▗";AT 17,4;" ";AT 16
,4;" ";AT 18,4;" "
632 PRINT AT 21,1;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚"
635 PRINT AT 16,4;" ";AT 20,3;"
 ";AT 19,3;"▗";AT 19,2;"▀";AT 18
,2;"▜";AT 18,3;"▗";AT 17,3;"▙";A
T 15,3;"▛";AT 14,3;"▛";AT 13,3;"
▒";AT 14,4;"▗";AT 17,4;" ";AT 16
,4;" ";AT 18,4;" "
636 PRINT AT 21,0;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚"
640 PRINT AT 17,3;"▜";AT 13,3;"
 ";AT 14,3;"▒";AT 14,4;" ";AT 15
,4;"▗";AT 16,4;"▀";AT 16,3;"▛";A
T 18,2;" ";AT 19,2;" ";AT 18,3;"
▙";AT 19,4;"▙";AT 20,4;"▀";AT 20
,5;"▀";AT 19,3;" "
642 PRINT AT 21,0;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚"
650 PRINT AT 14,3;"  ";AT 15,3;
" ";AT 16,3;" ";AT 15,4;"▒";AT 1
6,4;"▛";AT 17,4;"▜";AT 17,5;"▗";
AT 17,3;"▗";AT 18,3;"▜";AT 18,4;
"▀";AT 18,5;"▀";AT 19,3;"▀";AT 1
9,4;"▙";AT 20,5;"▙";AT 20,6;"▗"
652 PRINT AT 21,0;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚"
655 LET AJ=(INT ((RND)*100))/10
0
656 LET D=30-C+AJ
658 IF D<=0 THEN LET D=0
660 PRINT AT 0,5;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚";D;
"▚▚▚▚"
670 IF D=0 THEN PRINT AT 2,9;"▚
▚▚▚▚▚▚"
675 IF D>B THEN LET B=D
680 LET L=L-1
690 IF L=0 THEN GOTO 740
700 FOR K=1 TO 30
710 NEXT K
720 CLS
730 GOTO 5
740 PRINT AT 0,5;"▚▚▚▚▚▚▚▚";B;"▚▚▚▚"
745 GOTO 2000
780 LET C=31
790 GOTO 655
800 LET T=0
802 FOR L=1 TO 6
803 LET N=30
804 PRINT AT 21,0;A$
805 PRINT AT 19,3;" ";AT 15,4;"
 ";AT 20,2;" ";AT 18,4;" ";AT 20
,N;"▙ ";AT 19,N;"▗ ";AT 14,3;"▒"
;AT 15,3;"▛";AT 17,4;" ";AT 20,1
;" ";AT 19,1;"▟";AT 19,2;"▀";AT
17,1;" ";AT 18,2;" ";AT 17,2;"▙"
;AT 20,5;" ";AT 20,4;"▙";AT 19,4
;"▜";AT 18,3;"▙";AT 16,4;" ";AT
16,3;"▀";AT 16,2;"▟"
806 GOSUB 8000
810 PRINT AT 20,N;"▙ ";AT 19,N;
"▗ ";AT 20,4;" ";AT 20,3;"▙";AT
19,4;" ";AT 19,3;"▛";AT 18,3;"▙"
;AT 19,1;" ";AT 19,2;"▜";AT 16,3
;"▙";AT 17,4;"▀";AT 16,2;"▗";AT
17,2;"▀"
815 GOSUB 8000
830 PRINT AT 20,N;"▙ ";AT 19,N;
"▗ ";AT 20,3;" ";AT 20,1;"▙";AT
19,3;" ";AT 19,1;"▗";AT 19,1;"▗"
;AT 17,1;"▜";AT 17,2;" ";AT 18,2
;" ";AT 16,3;"▜";AT 19,2;"▀";AT
18,2;"▗";AT 16,2;"▗";AT 18,3;"▙"
;AT 17,3;"▛";AT 16,3;"▜";AT 15,3
;"▛";AT 14,3;"▒";AT 19,4;"▙";AT
16,4;"▜";AT 20,4;" ";AT 20,5;"▙"
835 GOSUB 8000
836 GOTO 805
840 PRINT AT 20,N;"▙ ";AT 19,N;
"▗ ";AT 21,N;"▚▚▚▚";AT 18,2;" ";
AT 19,1;" ";AT 16,3;"▙";AT 20,1;
" ";AT 20,2;"▀";AT 19,2;"▄";AT 1
9,3;"▜";AT 18,3;"▛";AT 18,4;"▗";
AT 19,4;"▜";AT 20,5;" ";AT 20,4;
"▙";AT 17,1;" ";AT 17,2;"▀";AT 1
6,2;"▗";AT 17,4;"▀";AT 16,4;"▀";
AT 15,4;"▗"
850 PRINT AT 20,N-1;"▙ ";AT 19,
N-1;"▗ ";AT 21,N-1;"▚▚▚▚";AT 20,
2;" ";AT 16,2;" ";AT 17,2;" ";AT
20,3;"▙";AT 19,3;"▛";AT 19,2;"▜
";AT 17,4;"▀";AT 15,4;"▗";AT 20,
4;" ";AT 19,4;" ";AT 18,4;"▗";AT
18,3;"▙"
860 PRINT AT 20,N-2;"▙ ";AT 19,
N-2;"▗ ";AT 21,N-2;"▚▚▚▚";AT 20,
3;"▗";AT 19,3;"▜";AT 19,2;" ";AT
18,3;"▜";AT 18,4;"▀";AT 17,3;"▙
";AT 17,4;"▗";AT 16,2;"▜";AT 16,
3;"▜";AT 16,4;" ";AT 15,2;"▗";AT
15,3;"▙";AT 15,4;"▗";AT 14,3;"▒
"
870 PRINT AT 20,N-3;"▙ ";AT 19,
N-3;"▗ ";AT 21,N-3;"▚▚▚▚";AT 18,
2;"▀ ";AT 17,4;"▄";AT 16,2;"▀"
;AT 15,2;"▄"
872 PRINT AT 15,4;" ";AT 16,4;"
▗";AT 17,4;"  ";AT 18,4;"▗";AT 1
9,5;"▄";AT 20,N-4;"▙ ";AT 19,N-4
;"▗ ";AT 21,N-4;"▚▚▚▚"
875 PRINT AT 19,5;" ";AT 20,N-5
;"▙ ";AT 19,N-5;"▗ ";AT 21,N-5;"
▚▚▚▚";AT 17,5;" ";AT 18,2;" ";AT
20,3;"▗";AT 19,3;"▜";AT 19,2;"
```

continued on page 124

continued from page 123

```
";AT 18,3;"■";AT 18,4;"■";AT 17,
3;"▙";AT 17,4;"▗";AT 16,2;"▌";AT
 16,3;"▌";AT 16,4;" ";AT 15,2;"▗
";AT 15,3;"▙";AT 15,4;"▗";AT 14,
3;"▒"
 880 PRINT AT 17,3;"▌";AT 20,N-6
;"▌";AT 19,N-6;"▗ ";AT 21,N-6;"
▒▒▒";AT 19,5;" ";AT 14,3;"▒";AT
 15,3;"▛";AT 15,2;" ";AT 16,2;"
";AT 17,4;" ";AT 17,2;" ";AT 20
,3;"▙";AT 19,3;"▛";AT 19,2;"▌";A
T 16,3;"▙";AT 15,4;"▌";AT 20,4;
" ";AT 19,4;" ";AT 18,4;"▗";AT 1
8,3;"▙"
 890 PRINT AT 17,3;"▛";AT 16,3;"
▙";AT 20,0;" ";AT 19,0;" ";AT 21
,0;"▒▒▒";AT 20,3;" ";AT 18,2;" "
;AT 19,1;" ";AT 16,3;"▙";AT 20,1
;" ";AT 20,2;"▗";AT 19,2;"▗";AT
19,3;"▌";AT 18,3;"▛";AT 18,4;"▗"
;AT 19,4;"▌";AT 20,5;" ";AT 20,4
;"▙";AT 17,1;" ";AT 17,2;"▗";AT
16,2;"▗";AT 17,4;"▗";AT 16,4;"▗"
;AT 15,4;"▗"
 900 PRINT AT 20,0;" ";AT 19,0;"
 "
 902 NEXT L
 910 PRINT AT 0,5;"TIME ";T;"SEC
S"
 912 PAUSE 100
 920 GOTO 2024
1000 LET A$="▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒
▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒
```

GAS BILL

GAS BILL is a useful little program to calculate the cost of keeping yourself warm and well-fed through the winter. The program requires you to enter the number of units used and the standing charge.

Of course, our readers would never dream of questioning the great Gas Board computer which sends out the bills, but many might like to reassure their nearest and dearest that the horrible figures are indeed the correct ones.

Gas Bill was written by J Ashburner of St Helens on Merseyside, and runs on the 16K Spectrum.

The program uses our special abbreviations for graphics characters so please read the instructions on the first page of Program Printout.

```
  5 POKE 23609,50: POKE 23658,8
 10 BORDER 0: PAPER 0: INK 7: I
NVERSE 0: OVER 0: BRIGHT 1: FLAS
H 0: CLS
 20 PRINT AT 2,5;"GAS BILL CALC
ULATIONS(11,sp)BY(2*sp)T.G.ASHBU
RNER AND(15*sp)J.M.ASHBURNER"
 21 PRINT AT 20,10; INVERSE 1;"
PRESS ANY KEY": INVERSE 0
 22 PLOT 50,30: DRAW 155,0: DRA
W 0,100: DRAW -155,0: DRAW 0,-10
0
 23 PLOT 50,80: DRAW 80,0: DRAW
 0,50
 24 FOR n=60 TO 120 STEP 15: CI
RCLE n,110,7: PLOT n,110: DRAW 5
,5: NEXT n
 25 PLOT 140,85: DRAW 50,0: DRA
W 0,40: DRAW -50,0: DRAW 0,-40
 26 PLOT 170,90: DRAW 5,30: DRA
W 3,0: DRAW -5,-30: DRAW -3,0: P
RINT AT 7,18;"50p": PRINT AT 10,
7; INVERSE 1;"537856 X": INVERSE
 0
 40 PAUSE 1: PAUSE 0
 50 CLS
 60 LET Z=1.032: LET Y=0.335
 65 PRINT "WHAT IS YOUR REFEREN
CE NO ?(5*sp)(This is found at t
he top of thebill)"
 70 INPUT  LINE K$
 75 PRINT AT 5,0;K$
 90 PRINT AT 21,9; FLASH 1;"PRE
SS ANY KEY"
100 PAUSE 1: PAUSE 0
110 CLS
200 PRINT "TYPE IN PRESENT METE
R READING .."
210 INPUT A
215 IF A<1 THEN  GO TO 110
220 PRINT AT 5,5;A
230 PRINT AT 10,0;"TYPE IN PREV
IOUS READING.."
240 INPUT B
245 IF B>A THEN  GO TO 230
250 PRINT AT 15,5;B
260 PRINT AT 21,9; FLASH 1;"PRE
SS ANY KEY"
270 PAUSE 1: PAUSE 0
275 CLS
280 PRINT "WHAT IS YOUR STANDIN
G CHARGE ?"
290 INPUT W
300 IF W<1 THEN  GO TO 270
301 PRINT AT 5,5;W
310 PRINT AT 10,0;"HOW MANY PEO
PLE ARE SHARING THE BILL ?"
320 INPUT X
325 IF X<1 OR X>20 OR X<>INT X
THEN  GO TO 310
330 PRINT AT 15,5;X
340 PRINT AT 21,9; FLASH 1;"PRE
SS ANY KEY"
350 PAUSE 1: PAUSE 0
355 CLS
360 PRINT "REF. NO. ";K$
370 PRINT "(32*sp)"
376 PRINT
380 PRINT "PRESENT........";A
390 PRINT
400 PRINT "PREVIOUS.......";B
420 PRINT
430 PRINT "UNITS USED.....";A-B
435 PRINT
436 PRINT "THERMS.........";(A-
B)*Z
440 PRINT "_____________________
____________"
450 PRINT
460 PRINT "STAND.CHGE.....£";W
470 PRINT
480 PRINT "NO OF PEOPLE...";X
490 PRINT
491 LET C=(((A-B)*Z*Y)+W)
492 LET C=C*100: LET C=INT C: L
ET C=C/100
495 PRINT "TOTAL CHARGE...£";C
500 PRINT
502 LET Q=C/X: LET Q=Q*100: LET
 Q=INT Q: LET Q=Q/100
510 PRINT "COST PER(24*sp)PERSO
N.........£";Q
520 PRINT "_____________________
____________"
530 PRINT )0;"(2*sp)(R)-RE-RUN
(S)-STOP (C)-COPY"
540 IF INKEY$<>"" THEN  GO TO 5
40
550 IF INKEY$="R" OR INKEY$="r"
 THEN  GO TO 50
555 IF INKEY$="C" OR INKEY$="c"
 THEN  COPY
560 IF INKEY$="S" OR INKEY$="s"
 THEN  GO TO 570
565 GO TO 550
570 CLS
```

ON THE

TAKE YOUR struggling rock band to the dizzying heights of an international tour in **On The Road,** a complex simulation of the heartache and happiness of a career in the music industry.

At each stage you are presented with a list of options. You may choose to record an album or arrange a live tour. You band has a financial and status rating, and those must be high enough for your decision.

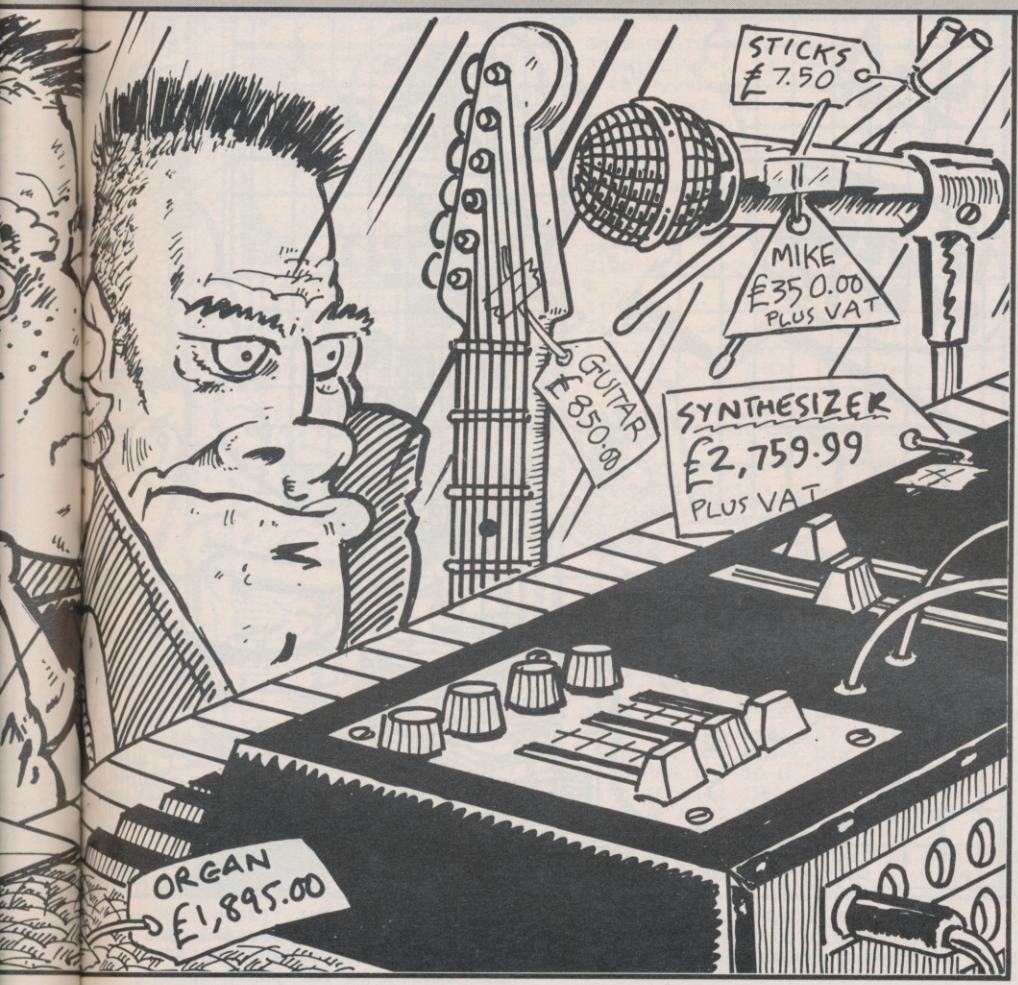
When you play live, you will only be allowed a limited number of gigs at a single venue, so plan carefully. Venues are described in terms of Audience quality (AQ) and variability (AV). The AV figure represents the degree of criticism you might expect, but the figures may not always tell the whole story.

On The Road was a runner-up in the 1984 Cambridge Awards competition, and was written by Ges and Hilary Taylor.

The program uses our special instructions for graphics characters, so please read the instructions on the first page of Program Printout before entering the program.

```
    5 CLEAR 65535: GO TO 1000
   10 GO TO 1450
  100 IF INKEY$<>"" THEN  GO TO 1
00
  101 IF INKEY$="" THEN  GO TO 10
1
  102 RETURN
  200 LET x=INT (RND*(u-l)+1)+l:
RETURN
  301 LET y=(2^su)+4000
  302 LET y=y+1000+(20*ss): RETUR
N
  405 PRINT v$(i);TAB 20;r(i);TAB
  23;a(i);TAB 25;INT i(i);TAB 31;
b(i): RETURN
  505 PRINT AT 0,11;"TOUR VENUES"
: PRINT
  507 PRINT AT 2,0;"(4*sp)VENUE(1
0*sp)AQ AV(2*sp)£(4*sp)B"
  510 FOR i=L1 TO L2
  515 FOR j=1 TO vb
  520 IF c(j)=i THEN  INVERSE 1:
GO SUB 400: INVERSE 0: GO TO 535
  525 NEXT j
  527 IF v(i)=mt THEN  INVERSE 1:
  GO SUB 400: INVERSE 0: GO TO 53
5
  530 GO SUB 400
  535 NEXT i
  540 PRINT AT 18,0;"Select up to
  5 venues for tour."
  550 PRINT AT 19,0;"ENTER 0 if s
election complete."
  555 PRINT AT 20,0;"ENTER 999 fo
r more choice.": RETURN
  570 PRINT AT 21,5; FLASH 1;"VEN
UE NOT AVAILABLE"
  575 GO TO 585
  580 PRINT AT 21,5; FLASH 1;"VEN
UE ALREADY BOOKED"
  590 PAUSE 100
  595 PRINT AT 21,0;"(32*sp)"
  605 INPUT v
  610 IF v=0 THEN  GO TO 3390
  615 IF v=999 THEN  RETURN
  620 IF v<L OR v>U THEN  GO TO 5
70
  625 FOR j=1 TO vb
  630 IF c(j)=v THEN  GO TO 570
  635 NEXT j
  640 FOR j=1 TO 5
  645 IF d(j)=v THEN  GO TO 580
  650 NEXT j
  660 LET v(v)=v(v)+1: IF v(v)=mt
+1 THEN  GO TO 570
  665 LET gt=gt+1: LET vt=vt+1: L
ET d(vt)=v
  685 LET nss=nss+((r(v)-RND*a(v)
)*(4-b(v)))
  687 IF vt>=5 THEN  GO TO 3390
  690 GO TO 605
  695 RETURN
  705 LET A1=INT (RND*((ti/25)+ss
/3))
  715 LET A3=(ti*ss)/10.25
  720 PRINT AT 0,7;"FINAL STUDIO
COSTS": PRINT : PRINT
  725 PRINT "ORIGINAL BOOKING FEE
S(4*sp)"
  730 PRINT AT 4,28;"£"
  735 PRINT AT 5,2;S$(S);AT 5,28;
S(S)*ti
  740 PRINT AT 6,2;p$(p);AT 6,28;
p(p)*ti
  745 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "ADDI
TIONAL FEES": PRINT
  750 PRINT AT 11,2;"Extra studio
  time ";A1;" hrs";AT 11,28;INT (
s(s)*A1)
  755 PRINT AT 12,2;"Extra mixing
  time ";INT (A1/1.25);" hrs";AT
12,28;INT (p(p)*(A1/1.25))
  760 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "SUND
RY EXPENSES": PRINT AT 15,28;INT
  A3: PRINT : PRINT
  765 LET cost=(s(s)*ti)+(p(p)*ti
)+INT (A1*ti)+INT ((A1/1.25)*ti)
+INT A3
  770 PRINT AT 18,7;"TOTAL COSTS
£";cost
  775 PRINT : PRINT : GO SUB 7000
: RETURN
  805 PRINT AT 21,0;"COPY?": GO S
UB 100
  810 IF INKEY$="Y" OR INKEY$="y"
  THEN  PRINT AT 21,0;"(6*sp)": C
OPY : RETURN
  820 RETURN
1000 RANDOMIZE : BORDER 7: PAPER
  7: INK 9: CLS
1006 POKE 23609,40: POKE 23658,8
1010 DIM b$(30): DIM a$(30)
1020 LET f=0: LET mo=50: LET we=
1: LET ss=0
1030 LET ct=0: DIM l$(5,7): LET
aw=0
1035 LET HH=0: LET la=0: LET na=
1160
1040 DIM s$(5,15): DIM p$(5,15):
  DIM t$(5,15): DIM q$(5,15): DIM
  s(8): DIM p(8): DIM t(16): DIM
q(16)
1050 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ l$(i): N
EXT i
1055 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ s$(i): N
EXT i
1060 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ p$(i): N
EXT i
1065 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ s(i): NE
XT i
1070 FOR i=1 TO 5: READ p(i): NE
XT i
1075 FOR i=1 TO 10: READ t(i): N
EXT i
1080 FOR i=1 TO 10: READ q(i): N
EXT i
1090 LET at=0: LET gt=0
1100 DIM v$(180,19): DIM v(180):
  DIM a(180): DIM r(180): DIM b(1
80): DIM w(180): DIM i(180)
1110 FOR i=1 TO 180: READ v$(i):
  NEXT i
```

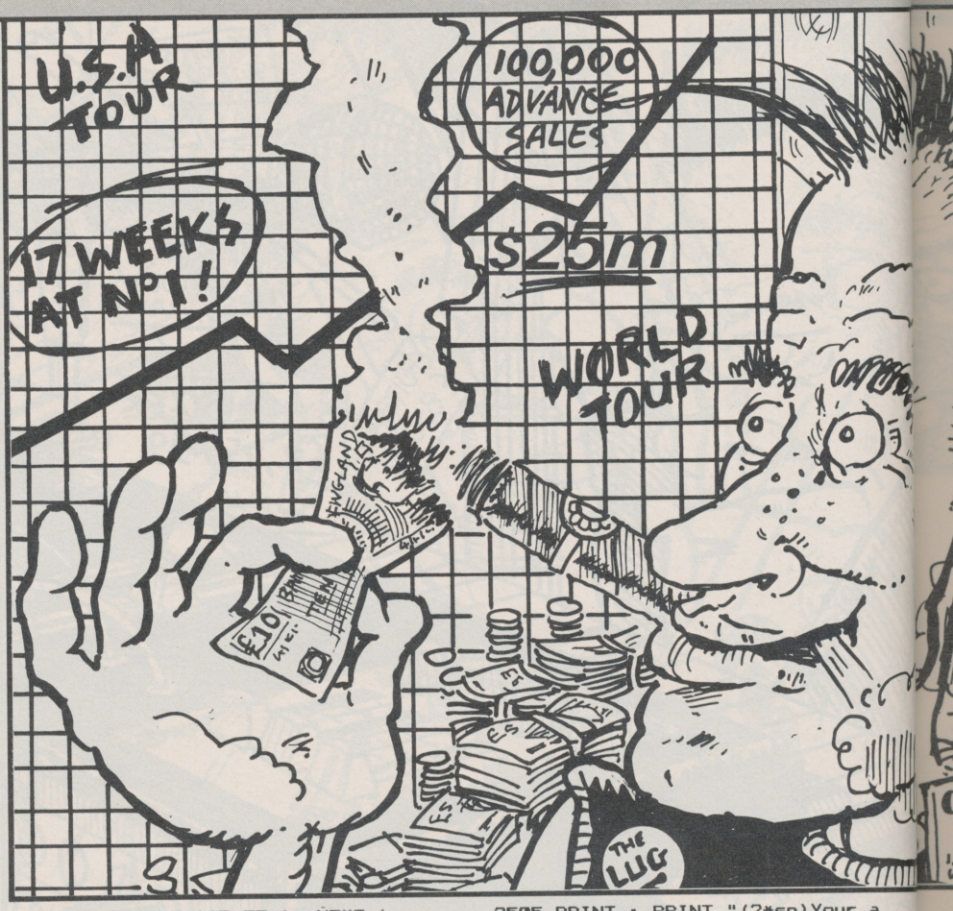
ROAD




```
1130 FOR i=1 TO 180: LET a(i)=0:
 NEXT i
1135 FOR i=1 TO 180: READ r(i):
NEXT i
1142 FOR i=1 TO 180: READ w(i):
NEXT i
1155 CLS : GO SUB na: GO TO 1390
1160 PRINT AT 0,10;"NAME THE BAN
D"
1165 PRINT : PRINT B$
1170 PRINT : PRINT "(3*sp)Type i
n the name you would(6*sp)like f
or your band.(13*sp)Press ENTER
when finished."
1180 PRINT AT 10,0;" ----------
---------- "
1190 FOR i=1 TO 30
1200 GO SUB 100
1210 LET b$(i)=INKEY$
1220 IF CODE b$(i)=13 THEN  LET
b$=b$( TO i-1): GO TO 1250
1230 PRINT AT 10,i;b$(i)
1240 NEXT i
1250 PRINT AT 21,0;"Is this corr
ect? (Y/N)"
1260 GO SUB 100
1270 LET y$=INKEY$
1280 IF y$="N" OR y$="n" THEN  P
RINT AT 21,0;"(22*sp)": GO TO 11
80
1290 IF y$<>"Y" AND y$<>"y" THEN
  GO TO 1260
1385 RETURN
1390 LET ra =((RND*41)+10)/10
1392 PRINT AT 21,0;"(22*sp)"
1394 PRINT AT 18,0;"Are you usin
g a PRINTER? (Y/N)"
1395 LET pz=0: GO SUB 100
1396 IF INKEY$="Y" OR INKEY$="y"
 THEN  LET pz=1
1400 PRINT AT 18,0;"How much ass
istance do you want?": PRINT : P
RINT "(8*sp)1 (min) - 5 (max)"
1405 GO SUB 100
1410 LET sk=VAL INKEY$
1415 IF sk<1 OR sk>5 THEN  GO TO
 1405
1420 LET ss=ra*sk
1425 LET stat=ss
1430 PRINT AT 15,0;"This dynamic
, exciting new band is going ON
THE ROAD with a(14*sp)STATUS of
";INT ss;"%"
1435 PRINT AT 18,0;"(32*sp)": PR
INT AT 20,0;"(3*sp)PRESS ANY KEY
 TO CONTINUE(4*sp)"
1440 PAUSE 10: PAUSE 0: CLS
1451 BORDER 7: PAPER 7: CLS
1452 LET stu=1900: LET liv=3000:
 LET fin=1600: LET sav=1550: LET
end=7500
1455 PRINT AT 0,11;"ON THE ROAD"
: PRINT : PRINT
1460 PRINT AT 3,0;"1(2*sp)INTO T
HE STUDIO"
1465 PRINT AT 5,0;"2(2*sp)LIVE G
IGS"
1468 PRINT AT 7,0;"3(2*sp)VENUE
SCAN"
1470 PRINT AT 9,0;"4(2*sp)FINANC
IAL REPORT"
1477 PRINT AT 11,0;"5(2,sp)SCORE
"
1478 PRINT AT 13,0;"6(2*sp)SAVE
GAME"
1480 PRINT AT 20,0;"Please selec
t option required."
1485 GO SUB 100
1490 LET y$=INKEY$: CLS
1495 IF y$="1" THEN  GO SUB stu:
 GO TO 1450
1500 IF y$="2" THEN  GO TO liv
1503 IF y$="3" THEN  GO SUB 4500
: GO TO 1450
1505 IF y$="4" THEN  GO SUB fin:
 GO TO 1450
1512 IF y$="5" THEN  GO TO end
1515 IF y$="6" THEN  GO SUB sav:
 GO TO 1450
1520 GO TO 1450
1552 BORDER 7: PAPER 7: CLS
1555 PRINT AT 10,0;"SAVE 'ON THE
 ROAD'."
1560 SAVE "road" LINE 10
1565 PRINT AT 10,0;"VERIFY 'ON T
HE ROAD'."
1570 VERIFY "road"
1575 CLS : RETURN
1601 BORDER 6: PAPER 6: CLS
1602 IF mo<=-1000 THEN  PRINT AT
 10,8; FLASH 1;"YOU ARE BANKRUPT
!": PAUSE 200: STOP
1605 IF ss<=0 THEN  PRINT AT 10,
0;"The music press vote you this
(3*sp)year's worst band and you
decideto split.": PAUSE 200: STO
P
1610 IF f=1 THEN  GO TO 1630
1620 IF mo>=1000000 THEN  LET ss
=ss+1: LET f=1
1630 IF ss<100 THEN  GO TO 1670
1640 IF f=1 THEN  GO TO 1660
1650 IF mo<1000000 THEN  LET ss=
99: GO TO 1670
1660 PRINT AT 8,9; FLASH 1;"CONG
RATULATIONS": PRINT : PRINT "You
 have achieved stardom and(3*sp)
can retire to a life of(9*sp)lux
ury!"
1662 PAUSE 300: CLS : GO SUB 168
0: STOP
1680 PRINT AT 0,8;"FINANCIAL REP
ORT"
1690 PRINT AT 2,1;B$
1700 PRINT : PRINT "Weeks ON THE
 ROAD......(2*sp)";INT we
1705 PRINT "Gigs played.........
...(2*sp)";gt
1710 PRINT : PRINT "Albums made.
...........(2*sp)";at
1715 IF at=0 THEN  GO TO 1725
1720 PRINT "Current album name..
....(2*sp)"'a$
1725 PRINT : PRINT "Initial stat
us.........(2*sp)";INT stat;"%"
1730 PRINT "Current status......
...(2*sp)";INT ss;"%"
1735 PRINT "(Actual status......
...(2*sp)";INT (ss*10+.5)/10;"%)
"
1740 PRINT : PRINT "Bank balance
........(2*sp)£";INT (mo*100+.5)
/100
1745 IF pz=1 THEN  GO SUB 800
1795 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
ANY KEY TO CONTINUE(4*sp)"
1796 PAUSE 10: PAUSE 0: CLS : RE
TURN
1991 BORDER 4: PAPER 4: CLS
1995 IF INT mo>=1000 THEN  GO TO
 1997
1996 GO TO 2010
1997 LET cost=0: LET nmo=0
2000 IF aw=0 THEN  GO TO 2004
2002 IF we>aw THEN  GO TO 2004
2003 GO TO 2010
2004 IF ct= 1 THEN  GO TO 2200
2005 IF ss>=10 THEN  GO TO 2100
2010 PRINT "(11*sp)STUDIO NEWS":
 PRINT : PRINT
2015 PRINT "Your agent understan
ds your(5*sp)enthusiasm to recor
d an album,"
2020 IF at>0 THEN  PRINT "follow
ing the release of"'a$: PRINT
2025 PRINT "but advises, at pres
ent, such anundertaking would be
 detrimentalto the band's progre
ss."
2030 PRINT AT 21,0;"   PRESS ANY
 KEY TO CONTINUE": PAUSE 50: PAU
SE 0: CLS : RETURN
2105 LET j=INT (RND*5)+1: LET cc
=INT (RND*3)+1: LET nmo=((8000*(
(ss-stat)/we))+(ss*ss))*cc
2106 LET c=0: LET nmo=nmo+INT (R
ND*1301)+200
2110 PRINT "(7*sp)RECORDING CONT
RACT(7*sp)": PRINT : PRINT
```

continued on page 128

```
2115 PRINT "Your agent has negot
iated(7*sp)a contract on your be
half.": PRINT
2120 PRINT "LABEL(5*sp)DEAL(5*sp
)NO.RECORDS"
2125 PRINT AT 8,0;1$(j);AT 8,10;
"£";INT nmo;AT 8,24;cc
2130 PRINT AT 21,0;"Do you accep
t this offer? (Y/N)"
2135 GO SUB 100
2140 LET y$=INKEY$
2145 IF y$="n" OR y$="N" THEN  L
ET aw=we+(INT (RND*5)+3): PRINT
AT 20,0;"Your agent will now res
ume(6*sp)talks with the record c
ompanies.": PAUSE 10: PAUSE 300:
 CLS : RETURN
2150 IF y$<>"y" AND y$<>"Y" THEN
  GO TO 2135
2151 LET ct=1: LET mo=mo+nmo: LE
T nmo=0
2152 PRINT AT 20,0;"Do you wish
to go straight"'"into the studio
? (Y/N)(10*sp)"
2153 GO SUB 100: IF INKEY$="y" O
R INKEY$="Y" THEN  CLS : GO TO 2
155
2154 CLS : RETURN
2155 LET nmo=0
2200 IF INT ss>=0 AND INT ss<=5
THEN  LET t=2: LET q=1
2205 IF INT ss>=6 AND INT ss<=15
 THEN  LET t=3: LET q=2
2210 IF INT ss>=16 AND INT ss<=3
0 THEN  LET t=3: LET q=3
2215 IF INT ss>=31 AND INT ss<=5
0 THEN  LET t=4: LET q=3
2220 IF INT ss>=51 AND INT ss<=6
0 THEN  LET t=4: LET q=4
2225 IF INT ss>=61 THEN  LET t=5
: LET q=5
2230 PRINT AT 0,9;"INTO THE STUD
IOS": PRINT : PRINT "STUDIOS"
2235 FOR i=1 TO t: PRINT i;"(2*s
p)";s$(i);" £";s(i);" hour": NEX
T i
2240 PRINT "PRODUCERS"
2245 FOR i=1 TO q: PRINT i;"(2*s
p)";p$(i);" £";p(i);" hour": NEX
T i
2250 PRINT AT 20,0;"Enter the nu
mber of the studio(2*sp)you wish
 to use."
2255 INPUT s
2257 IF S<1 OR S>t THEN  GO TO 2
255
2260 PRINT AT 15,0;"STUDIO(3*sp)
";s$(s)
2265 PRINT AT 20,0;"Enter the nu
mber of the produceryou wish to
use."
2270 INPUT p
2275 IF p<1 OR p>q THEN  GO TO 2
270
2280 PRINT AT 16,0;"PRODUCER ";p
$(p)
2285 PRINT AT 18,0;"STUDIO TIME"
;AT 19,0;"You should book betwee
n(9*sp)10 & 100 hours.(17*sp)";A
T 21,0;"Enter required number of
 hours."
2290 INPUT ti
2292 LET ti=INT ti
2295 IF ti<10 THEN  GO TO 2290
2305 IF ti>=10 AND ti<=49 THEN
LET t1=5: LET t2=10
2310 IF ti>=50 AND ti<=80 THEN
LET t1=10: LET t2=25
2320 IF ti>=81 THEN  LET t1=30:
LET t2=50
2325 PRINT AT 21,0;"(32*sp)"
2330 PRINT AT 21,0;"HOURS BOOKED
 ";INT ti
2331 PRINT #1;"(3*sp)PRESS ANY K
EY TO CONTINUE"
2332 PAUSE 0: CLS
2334 PRINT AT 0,9;"IN THE STUDIO
"
2335 PRINT AT 3,6; INK 7; PAPER
0; FLASH 1;"ALBUM NOW RECORDING"
2337 INK 0: FOR i=50 TO 25 STEP
-3: CIRCLE 115,75,i: NEXT i
2338 INK 7: FOR i=20 TO 5 STEP -
1: CIRCLE 115,75,i: NEXT i: INK
9
2340 PAUSE 150: GO SUB 700
2343 LET u=t(s*2): LET l=t(s*2)-
1: GO SUB 200: LET a=x
2345 LET u=q(p*2): LET l=q(p*2)-
1: GO SUB 200: LET ba=x
2350 LET u=t2: LET l=t1: GO SUB
200: LET k=x
2355 LET su=(a+ba+k)/10
2356 LET su=su+ss/100
2358 IF su>17 THEN  LET su=17
2363 LET mo=mo-cost
2365 LET we=we+1
2370 LET aw=we+(INT (RND*6)+12)
2373 LET at=at+1
2375 LET c=c+1
2380 IF c>=cc THEN  LET ct=0: LE
T AW=AW-4
2385 IF su<=5 THEN  LET u=1: LET
 l=0
2390 IF su>5 AND Su<=7 THEN  LET
 u=125: LET l=25
2395 IF su>7 AND Su<=9 THEN  LET
 u=175: LET l=75
2400 IF su>9 AND Su<=11 THEN  LE
T u=225: LET l=125
2405 IF su>11 AND Su<=13 THEN  L
ET u=275: LET l=175
2410 IF su>13 AND Su<=15 THEN  L
ET u=325: LET l=225
2415 IF su>15 AND Su<=17 THEN  L
ET u=375: LET l=275
2420 IF su>17 AND Su<=19 THEN  L
ET u=425: LET l=325
2425 IF su>19 AND Su<20 THEN  LE
T u=450: LET l=375
2426 IF su=20 THEN  LET u=500: L
ET l=400
2428 IF su>18 THEN  LET su=18
2430 GO SUB 200: LET nss=x/100
2435 GO SUB 300: LET nmo=y
2440 LET mo=mo+nmo: LET ss=ss+ns
s
2500 PRINT AT 0,9;"ALBUM RELEASE
"
2505 PRINT : PRINT "(2*sp)Your a
lbum has been recorded(4*sp)and
is ready for release.(7*sp)All t
hat remains is for you(5*sp)to g
ive it a title."
2510 PRINT : PRINT "Type in the
name you would(6*sp)like for you
r album.(12*sp)Press 'ENTER' whe
n finished."
2520 PRINT AT 12,0;" ----------
---------- "
2530 FOR i=1 TO 30
2540 IF INKEY$<>"" THEN  GO TO 2
540
2545 IF INKEY$="" THEN  GO TO 25
45
2550 LET a$(i)=INKEY$
2555 IF CODE A$(i)=13 THEN  LET
A$=A$( TO i-1): GO TO 2570
2560 PRINT AT 12,i;a$(i)
2565 NEXT i
2570 PRINT AT 21,0;"Is this corr
ect? (Y/N)"
2575 GO SUB 100
2580 IF INKEY$="N" OR INKEY$="n"
 THEN  PRINT AT 21,0;"(32*sp)":
GO TO 2500
2590 CLS
2600 PRINT AT 0,10;"ADVANCE SALE
S": PRINT
2605 PRINT "Record shops through
out Britain have made advance or
ders for(4*sp)your latest album,
"'a$
2610 PRINT : PRINT "RECORDING CO
STS £";INT cost
2620 PRINT : PRINT "ADVANCE SALE
S    £";INT nmo
2630 IF nmo>=cost THEN  PRINT :
PRINT "PROFIT(10*sp)£";INT (nmo-
cost)
2635 IF nmo<cost THEN  PRINT : P
RINT "LOSS(12*sp)£";INT (cost-nm
o)
2640 PRINT : PRINT "Please wait
while news of your(2*sp)success
spreads nationwide."
2641 IF nmo-cost<0 THEN  GO TO 2
```

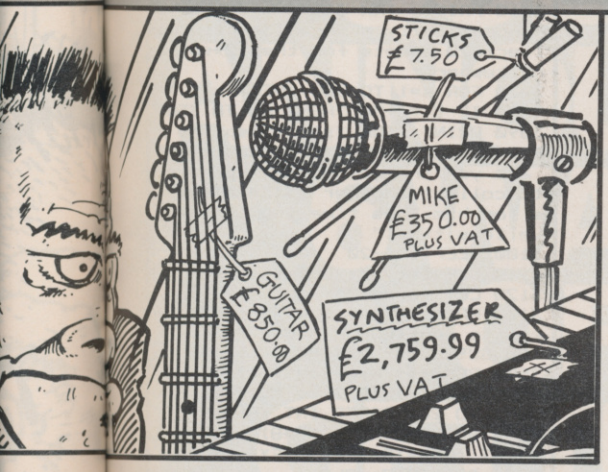


```
650
2642 FOR i=1 TO 180
2643 IF nmo-cost<50000 THEN  LET
 r(i)=r(i)+2
2644 IF nmo-cost>=50000 THEN  LE
T r(i)=r(i)+(INT (RND*3)+2)
2645 IF r(i)>=15 THEN  LET r(i)=
15
2646 NEXT i
2648 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
ANY KEY TO CONTINUE(4*sp)"
2650 PAUSE 0: GO SUB 5000
2652 CLS : RETURN
3002 BORDER 5: PAPER 5: CLS
3010 PRINT AT 0,11;"LIVE GIGS":
PRINT
3015 PRINT "(2*sp)TOUR(20*sp)STA
TUS"
3020 PRINT : PRINT "1 PUBS & CLU
BS(13*sp)0-18"
3021 PRINT : PRINT "2 COLLEGES(1
6*sp)15-45"
3022 PRINT : PRINT "3 BRITAIN(17
*sp)25-100"
3023 PRINT : PRINT "4 EUROPE(18*
sp)60-100"
3024 PRINT : PRINT "5 USA & JAPA
N(13*sp)45-100"
3025 PRINT AT 16,0;"Your status
is ";INT ss
3030 PRINT AT 18,0;"Select tour
required."
3035 PRINT AT 20,0;"(32*sp)";AT
21,0;"(32*sp)"
3037 GO SUB 100
3040 LET y$=INKEY$
3043 PRINT AT 20,0;B$;AT 21,0;"a
re going.....ON THE ROAD!"
3045 IF y$="1" AND INT ss<=18 TH
EN  GO TO 3080
3050 IF y$="2" AND INT ss>=15 AN
D INT ss<=45 THEN  GO TO 3095
3055 IF y$="3" AND INT ss>=25 AN
D INT ss<=100 THEN  GO TO 3110
3060 IF y$="4" AND INT ss>=60 AN
D INT ss<=100 THEN  GO TO 3125
3065 IF y$="5" AND INT ss>=45 AN
D INT ss<=100 THEN  GO TO 3140
3070 GO TO 3035
3080 LET E=1: LET mt=5: LET xx=4
: LET yy=5: LET zz=.25: LET uu=0
: LET uu=2 AND ss>=10: LET uu=uu
+2: LET pp=8
3085 LET bx=1: LET L=1: LET U=40
3090 GO TO 3155
3095 LET yy=0: LET mt=5: LET xx=
4: LET yy=.5 AND ss>=21: LET yy=
yy+3: LET zz=.75: LET uu=1: LET
pp=20
3100 LET bx=2: LET L=41: LET U=8
0
3105 GO TO 3155
3110 LET xx=3.5: LET yy=8: LET z
z=1.5: LET uu=1: LET pp=55
3111 IF HH=0 THEN  LET MT=8: GO
TO 3115
3112 IF HH=1 THEN  LET MT=10
3115 LET bx=3: LET L=81: LET U=1
20
3120 GO TO 3155
3125 LET mt=3: LET xx=3: LET yy=
10: LET zz=2: LET uu=30: LET pp=
60
3130 LET bx=4: LET L=121: LET U=
150
3135 GO TO 3155
3140 LET mt=3: LET xx=4: LET yy=
40: LET zz=2: LET uu=70: LET pp=
70
3145 LET bx=5: LET L=151: LET U=
180
3155 LET vt=0: LET bil=0: LET we
=we+1: LET nss=0: LET inc=0: LET
 kost=0: DIM c(5): DIM d(5)
3170 FOR i=L TO U
3175 IF bx=1 THEN  LET b(i)=1
3180 IF bx=2 AND INT ss>=15 AND
INT ss<=20 THEN  LET b(i)=2
3185 IF bx=2 AND INT ss>=21 AND
INT ss<=35 THEN  LET b(i)=INT (R
ND*2)+1
3190 IF bx=2 AND INT ss>=36 AND
INT ss<=45 THEN  LET b(i)=1
3194 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=25 AND
INT ss<=29 THEN  LET b(i)=3
3195 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=30 AND
INT ss<=40 THEN  LET b(i)=INT (R
ND*2)+2
3200 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=41 AND
INT ss<=59 THEN  LET b(i)=INT (R
ND*3)+1
3205 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=60 AND
INT ss<=63 THEN  LET b(i)=2
3210 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=64 AND
INT ss<=89 THEN  LET b(i)=INT (R
ND*2)+1
3215 IF bx=3 AND INT ss>=90 AND
INT ss<=100 THEN  LET b(i)=1
3220 IF bx=4 AND INT ss>=60 AND
INT ss<=75 THEN  LET b(i)=2
3225 IF bx=4 AND INT ss>=76 AND
INT ss<=90 THEN  LET b(i)=INT (R
ND*2)+1
3230 IF bx=4 AND INT ss>=91 AND
INT ss<=100 THEN  LET b(i)=1
3234 IF bx=5 AND INT ss>=45 AND
INT ss<=52 THEN  LET b(i)=3
3235 IF bx=5 AND INT ss>=53 AND
INT ss<=69 THEN  LET b(i)=INT (R
ND*2)+2
3240 IF bx=5 AND INT ss>=70 AND
INT ss<=89 THEN  LET b(i)=INT (R
ND*2)+1
3245 IF bx=5 AND INT ss>=90 AND
INT ss<=100 THEN  LET b(i)=1
3250 NEXT i
3260 FOR i=L TO U
3265 LET i(i)=(w(i)*(xx-b(i)))+(
((r(i)+2)*(INT ss-pp))/2)
3270 NEXT i
3273 CLS
3325 LET vb=INT (RND*5)+1
3330 FOR i=1 TO vb
3335 GO SUB 200
3340 LET c(i)=x
3345 NEXT i
3348 LET 11=L: LET 12=L+14
3350 GO SUB 500: GO SUB 600
3355 LET 11=L+15: LET 12=L+29
3360 GO SUB 500: GO SUB 600
3365 IF bx=4 OR bx=5 THEN  GO TO
 3347
3370 LET 11=L+30: LET 12=L+39
3375 GO SUB 500
3380 FOR i=13 TO 17: PRINT AT i,
0;"(32*sp)": NEXT i
3383 GO SUB 600
3385 GO TO 3347
3390 IF vt>0 THEN  GO TO 3435
3395 CLS
3400 PRINT AT 0,5;"WEEK'S GIGS C
ANCELLED"
3410 PRINT : LET tcc=20*INT ss
3420 PRINT "Loss of revenue(5*sp
)£";tcc
3423 LET mo=mo-tcc
3425 PAUSE 200: CLS
3430 GO TO 1450
3440 FOR i=1 TO vt
3445 LET inc=inc+i(d(i))
3450 NEXT i
3458 IF NOT bx=1 THEN  GO TO 346
2
3460 LET kost=(vt*ss*ss)/(yy+(ss
*E/20))+(ss*uu)+((RND*76)+50)
3461 GO TO 3465
3462 LET kost=(vt*ss*yy)+(ss*uu)
+((RND*100)+50)
3470 FOR i=1 TO vt
3475 LET bil=bil+b(d(i))
3477 IF bil>9 THEN  LET bil=9
3480 NEXT i
3485 LET nss=nss/((bil+1)*25)
3490 CLS
3495 PRINT AT 0,10;"ON THE ROAD"
: PRINT
3500 PRINT "H.M.G. PRODUCTIONS p
resents": PRINT : PRINT b$: PRIN
T
3505 PRINT "live on tour at :-"
3510 FOR i=1 TO vt
3515 PRINT : PRINT "(3*sp)";v$(d
(i))
3520 NEXT i
3523 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
ANY KEY TO CONTINUE"
3525 PAUSE 0
3530 CLS
3540 GO SUB 4000
3570 CLS
3575 PRINT AT 0,10;"TOUR REPORT"
: PRINT
3620 PRINT : PRINT "TOTAL TOUR I
NCOME(3*sp)£";INT inc
3625 PRINT "TOTAL TOUR COSTS(4*s
p)£";INT kost
3630 IF INT inc-INT kost<0 THEN
 PRINT "LOSS(16*sp)£";INT inc-IN
T kost: LET ss=ss-zz: GO TO 3640
3635 PRINT "PROFIT(14*sp)£";INT
inc-INT kost
3640 LET low=INT (RND*2)
3642 IF low=1 THEN  GO TO 3685
3643 PRINT : PRINT
3645 PRINT "You are advised that
 these(6*sp)venues may not come
up to(7*sp)expectation on future
 tours."
3646 PRINT
3655 FOR i=1 TO vt
3658 IF bx=1 THEN  LET j=INT (RN
D*80)+1
3660 IF bx=2 THEN  LET j=INT (RN
D*80)+41
3661 IF bx=3 THEN  LET j=INT (RN
D*70)+81
3662 IF bx=4 OR bx=5 THEN  LET j
=INT (RND*100)+81
3670 LET a(j)=a(j)+INT (RND*3)
3672 IF a(j)>5 THEN  LET a(j)=5
3675 PRINT v$(j)
3680 NEXT i
3690 PRINT AT 18,0;"(4*sp)Your f
inances are being(5*sp)calculate
d by HMG productions.(13*sp)PLEA
SE WAIT"
3700 LET ss=ss+nss: LET mo=mo+(i
nc-kost)
3707 FOR i=L TO U
```

continued on page 130

```
3708 FOR j=1 TO vt
3709 IF v$(i)=v$(d(j)) THEN  GO
TO 3723
3711 NEXT j
3713 LET rr=INT (RND*3)-1
3715 LET r(i)=r(i)+rr
3718 IF r(i)<-2 THEN  LET r(i)=-
2
3720 IF r(i)>15 THEN  LET r(i)=1
5
3723 NEXT i
3725 FOR i=1 TO vt
3727 LET r(d(i))=r(d(i))-2
3731 IF r(d(i))<-2 THEN  LET r(d
(i))=-2
3732 IF r(d(i))>15 THEN  LET r(d
(i))=15
3734 NEXT i
3750 GO SUB 7000: GO SUB 5000: C
LS : GO TO 1450
4010 PRINT AT 0,12;"TOUR NEWS":
PRINT
4020 PRINT TAB 3;"VENUE";TAB 20;
"PERF.(2*sp)AUD.": PRINT
4030 LET X$="vgoodgood toughpoor
 awful"
4040 LET z$="vgoodgood avge poor
 vpoor"
4045 FOR i=1 TO vt
4048 LET ar=INT (RND*5)+1
4050 LET ap=INT (RND*5)+1
4060 LET u$=x$((ar*5-4) TO (ar*5
))
4070 LET w$=z$((ap*5-4) TO (ap*5
))
4080 PRINT v$(d(i));"(sp)";W$;"(
sp)";U$
4090 IF ar=1 THEN  LET a(d(i))=0
: LET r(d(i))=r(d(i))+1
4091 IF ar=2 THEN  LET a(d(i))=0
4096 IF ar=5 THEN  LET a(d(i))=a
(d(i))+1
4098 IF a(d(i))>5 THEN  LET a(d(
i))=5
4100 IF ap=1 THEN  LET r(d(i))=r
(d(i))+3
4102 IF ap=2 THEN  LET r(d(i))=r
(d(i))+2
4103 IF ap=3 THEN  LET r(d(i))=r
(d(i))+1
4107 IF ap=5 THEN  LET r(d(i))=r
(d(i))-1
4108 IF r(d(i))<-2 THEN  LET r(d
(i))=-2
4109 IF r(d(i))>15 THEN  LET r(d
(i))=15
4111 NEXT i
4112 PRINT AT 12,0;"PERF. - Your
 rating of the gig."
4115 PRINT AT 14,0;"AUD.(2*sp)-
The audience's response."
4130 GO SUB 7000: RETURN

4503 BORDER 2: PAPER 2: CLS
4504 PRINT AT 0,12;"VENUE SCAN"
4505 PRINT AT 1,6;"Venue";AT 1,1
8;"Times played"
4508 POKE 23692,255
4510 FOR i=1 TO 180
4515 PRINT v$(i);"(2*sp)";v(i):
PAUSE 35
4518 NEXT i
4525 PRINT "(3*sp)PRESS ANY KEY
TO CONTINUE": PAUSE 0
4530 POKE 23692,1: RETURN
5010 CLS : LET H=INT (RND*18)+1
5020 GO SUB h*100+5000
5040 RETURN
5100 IF NOT aw-we>20 THEN  RETUR
N
5102 GO SUB 7070
5105 PRINT "A single has been ta
ken from"'a$: PRINT
5110 LET sg=INT (RND*15)+1
5115 IF sg<=5 THEN  LET mo=mo-10
00: LET g$="FLOP."
5120 IF sg>=6 AND sg<=10 THEN  L
ET mo=mo+2500: LET SS=ss+.5: LET
 g$="Chart entry."
5125 IF sg>=11 AND sg<=13 THEN
LET mo=mo+2500: LET ss=ss+1: LET
 g$="Top 20 hit."
5130 IF sg>=14 THEN  LET mo=mo+5
000: LET ss=ss+1.5: LET g$="Top
10 hit."
5140 PRINT "This single is a ";g
$
5145 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5200 IF NOT (we=26 OR we=78 OR w
e=130 OR we=182) THEN  RETURN
5201 GO SUB 7070
5205 PRINT "You are asked to pla
y READING(3*sp)Do you accept? (Y
/N)": PRINT
5210 GO SUB 100
5215 LET y$=INKEY$
5218 IF Y$<>"Y" AND Y$<>"y" THEN
  RETURN
5220 LET mo=mo+(ss*100): LET GT=
GT+1: LET ss=ss+2: PRINT : PRINT
 "READING BOOKED - INCOME £";INT
 ss*100
5232 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5300 IF NOT ss>90 THEN  RETURN
5302 GO SUB 7070
5305 PRINT "Your agent has arran
ged for you to headline at WEMBL
Y"
5310 PAUSE 70: PRINT
5315 PRINT "How many nights do y
ou want(5*sp)to book? (0 - 4)":
PRINT
5320 INPUT wb
5325 IF wb<0 OR wb>4 THEN  GO TO
 5320
5328 PRINT "Nights booked = ";wb
5330 IF wb=0 THEN  RETURN
5335 PRINT "INCOME £";INT (wb*ss
*60)
5340 LET mo=mo+(wb*ss*60): LET s
s=ss+2: LET GT=GT+WB
5350 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5400 GO SUB 5200: RETURN
5500 GO SUB 7070: PRINT "New equ
ipment costs £";INT ss*12: LET m
o=mo-(ss*12)
5505 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5600 IF NOT gt>100 THEN  RETURN
5602 GO SUB 7070
5603 LET hol=INT (RND*4)+1
5605 PRINT "The band takes a bre
ak"'"of ";hol;" weeks.": LET we=
we+hol
5610 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5700 IF NOT (we=20 OR we=75 OR w
e=123 OR we=177) THEN  RETURN
5701 GO SUB 7070
5705 PRINT "You are asked to pla
y DONINGTON Do you accept? (Y/N)
": PRINT
5710 GO SUB 100
5715 LET y$=INKEY$
5718 IF y$<>"y" AND y$<>"Y" THEN
  RETURN
5720 LET mo=mo+(ss*125): LET GT=
GT+1: LET ss=ss+2.5: PRINT : PRI
NT "DONINGTON BOOKED - INCOME £"
;INT ss*125
5735 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
5800 GO SUB 5700: RETURN
5900 IF NOT ss>75 THEN  RETURN
5902 GO SUB 7070
5910 PRINT "Lighting expert Dave
 'Hurricane'Cox has designed a n
ew laser(4*sp)extravaganza."','"C
ost £";INT ss*9.9
5915 LET mo=mo-(INT ss*9.9): LET
 ss=ss+2: GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6000 GO SUB 7070: PRINT "Mick 'L
ager-Dash' Cox, one of(3*sp)your
 roadies, has been caught(3*sp)i
n possession of the dreaded(4*sp
)weed.(2*sp)Fine costs £";INT (2
0*ss);".": LET mo=mo-(20*ss)
6005 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6100 GO SUB 7070: PRINT "Fan-clu
b secretary Debb 'Love(3*sp)Load
ed' Cotterill designs a(5*sp)new
 logo for tour merchandise."
6105 PRINT : PRINT "Additional i
ncome £";INT (ss*25): LET mo=mo+
INT (ss*25)
6150 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6200 GO SUB 7070: PRINT "Marion
the 'Backstage Queen'(4*sp)devis
es a new stage show for(4*sp)fut
ure gigs"
6203 PRINT : PRINT "Costs £";INT
 (ss*10)+75: LET mo=mo+INT (ss*1
0)+75
6205 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6300 IF at<=0 THEN  RETURN
6305 GO SUB 7070
6308 LET als=((RND*100)+50)*ss*a
t
6310 PRINT "Receipts from album
sales:-"''"(13*sp)£";INT als
6315 LET ss=ss+.5*at: LET mo=mo+
als
6350 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6400 IF NOT aw-we>23 THEN  RETUR
N
6401 GO SUB 7070
6402 LET cov=INT (RND*4)+1
6405 PRINT "Printers have diffic
ulty(8*sp)producing your album c
over.(5*sp)Release date set back
 ";cov;" weeks."
6410 PRINT : PRINT "Do you wish
to postpone any tour plans? (Y/N
)"
6415 GO SUB 100
6420 LET y$=INKEY$
6423 IF y$<>"y" AND y$<>"Y" THEN
  RETURN
6425 LET we=we+cov
6430 LET ss=ss-(INT (RND*3)+1)
6440 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6500 GO SUB 7070
6505 LET err=(RND*16)+5: LET err
=err/10: LET err=INT (err*10+.5)
/10
6510 PRINT "G & HM Taylor, your
financial(3*sp)advisers, tell yo
u of an(8*sp)accounting error of
 ";err;"%"
6512 LET erx=INT (RND*2): IF erx
=1 THEN  GO TO 6530
6515 PRINT : PRINT "DEDUCTION :
```




```
£";INT (MO*err/100)
6520 LET MO=MO-(mo*err/100)
6525 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6530 PRINT : PRINT "ADDITION : £
";INT (mo*err/100)
6535 LET mo=mo+(mo*err/100)
6540 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6600 IF NOT (ss>=85 AND we>=182)
 THEN  RETURN
6605 GO SUB 7070
6610 PRINT AT 5,5; FLASH 1;"CONF
IRMATION OF TOURS": PRINT : PRIN
T
6615 PRINT "The deal negotiated
by H.M.G.(3*sp)productions revis
es the 8-gig(3*sp)restriction im
posed by venues onthe British ci
rcuit (81-120)."
6620 PRINT : PRINT " VENUES(3*sp
)CIRCUIT(4*sp)GIG LIMIT(2*sp)"
6630 PRINT "(2*sp)1-80(4*sp)PUBS
 etc(7*sp)5(6*sp)"
6635 PRINT  FLASH 1;" 81-120(3*s
p)BRITISH(7*sp)10 "
6640 PRINT "121-150(3*sp)EUROPEA
N(7*sp)3"
6645 PRINT "151-180(3*sp)USA/JAP
AN(6*sp)3"
6650 LET HH=1
6690 GO SUB 7000: RETURN
6700 GO SUB 6600: RETURN
6800 GO SUB 6600: RETURN
7000 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
ANY KEY TO CONTINUE": PAUSE 10:
PAUSE 0: CLS : RETURN
7070 BORDER 7: PAPER 7: CLS
7071 PRINT AT 0,14;"NEWS": PRINT
 : PRINT : PRINT : PRINT : RETUR
N
7501 BORDER 6: PAPER 6: CLS
7505 LET cg=(ss-stat)+((mo/10000
00)*stat)
7540 PRINT AT 0,11;"SCORE"
7545 PRINT : PRINT b$: PRINT "HA
VE ACHIEVED ";INT (cg*10+0.5)/10
;"% POPULARITY"'"& WEALTH ON THE
 ROAD TO STARDOM"
7547 IF gt=0 THEN  GO TO 7603
7548 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT "PROS
PECTS FOR THE BAND LOOK :-": PRI
NT
7550 LET xxx=((ss-INT stat)/(we-
0.95))*1000
7551 LET xxx=xxx+ss
7552 LET XXX=INT XXX
7560 IF xxx<=250 THEN  PRINT "(5
*sp)"; FLASH 1;"LIKE IT'S TIME T
O QUIT"
7565 IF xxx>=251 AND xxx<=350 TH
EN  PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"V
ERY POOR"
7570 IF xxx>=351 AND xxx<=450 TH
EN  PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"P
00R"
7575 IF xxx>=451 AND xxx<=600 TH
EN  PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"A
VERAGE"
7580 IF xxx>=601 AND xxx<=700 TH
EN  PRINT ;"(12*sp)"; FLASH 1;"G
OOD"
7585 IF xxx>=701 AND xxx<=850 TH
EN  PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"V
ERY GOOD"
7588 IF xxx>=851 AND xxx<=950 TH
EN  PRINT ;"(10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"E
XCELLENT"
7590 IF xxx>=951 THEN  PRINT ;"(
10*sp)"; FLASH 1;"OUTSTANDING"
7592 IF pz=1 THEN  GO SUB 800
7603 PRINT AT 21,0;"(3*sp)PRESS
ANY KEY TO CONTINUE"
7605 PAUSE 10: PAUSE 0: CLS : GO
 TO 1450
8005 DATA "EBONY","NEAT","PEGASU
S","VERTIGO","POLYDOR"
8010 DATA "The Barn","DeneWood",
"Azimuth Studios","Brinney Coppi
ce","Peckingham Hall"
8015 DATA "Bob Amu","Mike Newton
","Tom Biddle","Ian Green","Roge
r Fisher"
8020 DATA 25,40,50,70,99
8025 DATA 10,30,50,65,75
8030 DATA 2,10,5,18,14,30,25,40,
30,50
8035 DATA 5,25,10,45,35,65,55,80
,70,100
8100 DATA "1(2*sp)THE PLOUGH","2
(2*sp)THE HOPWOOD","3(2*sp)THE R
ED LION","4(2*sp)THE RAVEN","5(2
*sp)THE CROWN","6(2*sp)GOLDEN EA
GLE","7(2*sp)THE JUNCTION","8(2*
sp)HOPE & ANCHOR","9(2*sp)THE NA
G'S HEAD","10 DISTRACTIONS","11
THE FILIBUSTER","12 THE BOURNBRO
OK","13 THE GEORDIE","14 THE POW
ERHOUSE","15 THE POWDER KEG","16
 THE COVEN","17 GOLDDIGGERS","18
 J.B.'S","19 THE ROXY","20 'ENRY
'S"
8110 DATA "21 THE 100 CLUB","22
CLOGGS CLUB","23 MOTHER'S","24 S
AXONWOOD","25 MOUNTMORE","26 VAL
HALLA","27 STEPMOTHER'S","28 MER
LIN'S COVE","29 THE MARQUEE","30
 ROCK MACHINE","31 THE HIDEAWAY"
,"32 THE MAYFAIR","33 OAKDEN","3
4 CHESFORD GRANGE","35 KINETIC C
IRCUS","36 YORK ART C'TRE","37 B
'HAM ART C'TRE","38 CHAPLIN'S","
39 MYRIAN","40 STORMWOOD"
8120 DATA "41 ASTON UNIV","42 B'
HAM UNIV","43 KEELE UNIV","44 WA
RWICK UNIV","45 SHENSTONE","46 N
EWMAN ","47 SUMMERFIELD","48 WES
TFIELD","49 WESTHILL","50 TUDOR
GRANGE","51 DUDLEY POLY","52 L.S
.E.","53 U.E.A.","54 YORK UNIV",
"55 BATH UNIV","56 LANCHESTER","
57 MARJOHN","58 HULL UNIV","59 M
ADELEY","60 LOUGHBOROUGH","61 SA
LFORD UNIV","62 BRISTOL UNIV","6
3 B'HAM POLY","64 C.C.A.T.","65
TRENT POLY","66 WORCESTER","67 G
IRTON COLLEGE","68 STIRLING UNIV
","69 DURHAM UNIV","70 PRESTON P
OLY","71 NOTTS UNIV","72 CARDIFF
 UNIV","73 SUSSEX UNIV","74 READ
ING UNIV","75 HATFIELD POLY","76
 PLYMOUTH POLY"
8130 DATA "77 BEDFORD COLLEGE","
78 BRUNEL UNIV","79 N.STAFFS POL
Y","80 RUGBY C OF E"
8140 DATA "81  AYLESBURY FRIAR",
"82  B'HAM ODEON","83  BRIGHTON
PAV","84  IPSWICH GAUMONT","85
BRISTOL COLSTON","86  CARDIFF OD
EON","87  COVENTRY TH'TRE","88
DERBY ASSM RMS","89  EDIN USHER
HALL","90  GLASGOW APOLLO","91
EXETER CITY H","92  LEICS DE M H
ALL","93  L'POOL EMPIRE","94  TH
E ROUNDHOUSE","95  H'SMITH ODEON
","96  LONDON LYCEUM","97  LONDO
N DOMINION","98  QUEENS U B'FAST
","99  MALVERN W GDNS"
8150 DATA "100 MAN APOLLO","101
NEWCASTLE C H","102 NEW BINGLEY
H","103 WOLV CIVIC HALL","104 LE
EDS TOWN HALL","105 LOWESTOFT PA
V","106 OXFORD APOLLO","107 DIGB
ETH CIVIC H","108 CAM CORN EXCH"
,"109 N.E.C.","110 EDIN PLAYHOUS
E","111 DUNDEE CAIRD H","112 KIN
GS X CINEMA","113 HULL TOWN HALL
","114 SHEFFIELD C H","115 AYR C
ALEDONIAN","116 LEWISHAM ODEON",
"117 YORK MINSTER","118 MIDNIGHT
 COURT","119 FAIRFIELD HALL","12
0 CREWE PAVILLION"
8160 DATA "121 PARIS","122 ZURIC
H","123 HAMBURG","124 NANCY","12
5 PORI","126 OSLO","127 STOCKHOL
M","128 COPENHAGEN","129 BERLIN"
,"130 AMSTERDAM","131 BRUSSELS",
"132 OSTEND","133 ROTTERDAM","13
4 ANTWERP","135 LYON","136 WARSA
W","137 KOLN","138 BREMEN","139
LUXEMBURG","140 WILLISAU","141 L
UCERNE","142 MILAN","143 HELSINK
I","144 BUDAPEST","145 MUNICH","
146 STUTTGART","147 NANTES","148
 ROME","149 MADRID","150 MALMO"
8170 DATA "151 SAN FRANCISCO","1
52 BUFFALO","153 PHEONIX","154 B
OSTON","155 MINNEAPOLIS","156 PO
RTLAND","157 CINNCINATI","158 SA
LEM","159 TORONTO","160 LOS ANGE
LES","161 NEW ORLEANS","162 OMAH
A","163 DALLAS","164 SACRAMENTO"
,"165 TULSA","166 SAN DIEGO","16
7 SEATTLE","168 SALT LAKE CITY",
"169 NEW YORK","170 BALTIMORE","
171 DETROIT","172 PHILADELPHIA",
"173 ALBANY","174 MEMPHIS","175
ATLANTA","176 OSAKA","177 NAGOYA
","178 TOKYO","179 YOKOHAMA","18
0 NAGASAKI"
8200 DATA 0,7,0,2,3,5,3,8,7,1,1,
3,4,3,6,6,6,5,5,5,6,2,10,8,8,7,8
,6,10,7,6,10,3,1,8,3,6,0,2,7
8210 DATA 7,10,8,8,4,2,7,7,1,0,2
,8,6,7,8,5,1,6,2,3,5,10,9,8,4,0,
4,5,5,2,1,5,6,9,9,0,2,0,2,2
8220 DATA 9,8,6,2,6,3,5,2,7,7,2,
6,6,7,10,8,7,7,1,7,6,8,2,5,7,6,5
,8,10,2,2,10,0,1,2,0,10,10,1,0
8230 DATA 8,10,1,2,3,8,9,2,7,10,
8,2,9,2,4,5,0,6,7,1,7,10,1,7,8,6
,0,6,2,7
8240 DATA 10,8,1,0,2,7,1,5,8,10,
7,8,7,1,5,0,10,2,9,0,6,7,8,9,2,6
,1,4,3,7
8300 DATA 15,35,16,44,56,41,56,4
5,50,30,17,51,75,63,49,63,64,24,
70,13,92,14,46,60,33,25,40,21,75
,75,30,85,63,66,42,80,33,75,65,4
5
8310 DATA 70,95,45,60,30,75,20,4
2,78,80,90,50,75,57,42,80,60,85,
87,75,58,80,40,55,42,42,72,60,62
,70,95,45,90,50,60,45,72,40,82,9
0
8320 DATA 140,750,400,600,600,65
0,250,500,800,750,510,610,750,20
0,950,240,200,800,420,800,410,97
5,180,400,130,145,200,210,2000,6
00,1250,150,150,140,750,700,190,
350,600,250
8330 DATA 2750,2950,1800,1750,17
00,300,450,2800,475,2000,520,175
0,580,1600,375,1750,250,400,1700
,300,525,350,325,1725,1750,600,2
50,1600,1550,585
8340 DATA 5000,1000,4500,4000,52
5,700,3750,3800,4000,5750,780,12
00,3900,4200,675,4000,590,4000,4
200,570,1000,1230,1200,1000,3850
,6000,650,625,590,4590
8999 STOP
9880 SAVE "road" LINE 5
9881 VERIFY "road"
9882 STOP
9890 CLS : LET memory=(PEEK 2373
0+256*PEEK 23731-PEEK 23653-256*
PEEK 23654)
9891 PRINT AT 8,3;"MEMORY USED:"
;(((48*1024)-memory)/1024)
9892 PRINT AT 10,3;"MEMORY FREE:
";memory/1024
9899 STOP
```

THE SWEET GAME

YOU SHOULD never have busted that fence. The park keeper is hopping mad, and the only way to placate him is to collect up the sweets in the park. Unfortunately you must do it in a given length of time or the park keeper will incinerate you with his regulation Parks and Recreation Dept laser gun.

The Sweet Game was written by Benjamin Regis of London and runs on the 16K Spectrum.

The program uses our special abbreviations for graphics characters, so please read the instructions on the first page of Program Printout before typing in the program.

```
  80 PAPER 7: BORDER 7: INK 0: C
LS
  90 GO SUB 9000
 100 REM *** Instructions ***
 110 PRINT AT 0,10;"Sweet Game"
 120 PRINT AT 0,10; OVER 1; INK
2;"__________"
 130 PRINT '''(2*sp)The aim of t
he Sweet Game is(2*sp)to collect
 20 sweets("; INK 2;"E"; INK 0;"
) for the park keeper to repay h
im for thefence that you broke.O
ne problemis that the park keepe
r is(6*sp)giving you a limited t
ime to(4*sp)collect them.Another
 problem is that when you pick u
p a sweet(3*sp)you leave a stick
y mess behind(2*sp)(C). If you s
hould get stuck in it then a few
 seconds of your(3*sp)time is ta
ken to get out of it."
 140 PRINT  INK 2;"(2*sp)If you
should fail to collect all 20 sw
eets the park keeper(3*sp)will s
hoot you with his laser."; INK 1
;''"Keys - Cursor Keys (5,6,7&8)
"
 150 PRINT ' INK 3;"GOOD LUCK!"
 160 PRINT #1;AT 1,0;"Press any
key to continue": PAUSE 0: CLS
 170 GO SUB 8000
 180 GO SUB 7000
 190 REM *** Main Loop ***
 200 IF INKEY$="5" AND b>1 THEN
PRINT AT a,b;"(sp)": LET b=b-1
 210 IF INKEY$="6" AND a<20 THEN
 PRINT AT a,b;"(sp)": LET a=a+1
 220 IF INKEY$="7" AND a>2 THEN
PRINT AT a,b;"(sp)": LET a=a-1
 230 IF INKEY$="8" AND b<30 THEN
 PRINT AT a,b;"(sp)": LET b=b+1
 240 PRINT AT a,b; INK 1;"D"
 250 IF a$(a,b)="C" THEN  GO SUB
6000
 260 IF a$(a,b)="E" THEN  GO SUB
5000: GO SUB 8040
 270 PRINT AT 0,0;"Score(sp)";sc
ore
 280 IF score=20 THEN  GO SUB 30
00
 290 LET time=time-1 AND time<>0
: PRINT AT 0,17;"Time(sp)";time;
"(2*sp)"
 300 IF time=0 THEN  GO TO 4000
 310 GO TO 200
3000 REM *** End of Sheet ***
3010 FOR r=1 TO 2: FOR s=-20 TO
40: BEEP .01,s: NEXT s
3020 FOR s=40 TO -20 STEP -1: BE
EP .01,s: NEXT s: NEXT r
3030 FOR s=1 TO 100: NEXT s: CLS
3040 PRINT AT 2,10; INK 2;"WELL
DONE!"
3050 BEEP .1,10
3060 PRINT  INK 3''"(sp)You have
 successfully managed(3*sp)to co
llect 20 sweets for the(12*sp)pa
rk keeper"
3070 FOR s=1 TO 300: NEXT s
3080 IF t<=u+50 THEN  GO TO 3500
3090 PRINT  INK 1;''"(5*sp)The p
ark keeper is not(6*sp)satisfied
 and you are going to(4*sp)have
to collect another 20(5*sp)sweet
s for him.This time you(10*sp)ha
ve less time."
3100 BEEP .5,-20
3110 LET t=t-50: LET time=t
3120 LET score=0
3130 PRINT #1;AT 1,0;"Press any
key to continue": PAUSE 0: CLS :
 GO SUB 8000: RETURN
3500 REM *** Win Routine ***
3510 FOR s=1 TO 200: NEXT s: FOR
 s=1 TO 20: PAPER INT (RND*8): C
LS : BORDER INT (RND*8): BEEP .0
1,INT (RND*100)-40: NEXT s: PAPE
R 7: BORDER 7: CLS
3520 PRINT  INK 2;AT 5,0;"(sp)TH
E PARK KEEPER IS SATISFIED"; INK
 1''"(6*sp)YOU ARE FREE TO GO"
3530 INPUT "Another go ? (y/n)(s
p)";b$
3540 IF b$="Y" OR b$="y" THEN  R
UN
3550 STOP
4000 REM *** Laser Routine ***
4010 FOR l=20 TO a+1 STEP -1: PR
INT AT l,b; INK RND*7;"¦": BEEP
.02,60: NEXT l
4020 FOR m=1 TO 5: FOR l=6 TO 0
STEP -1: PRINT AT l,b; INK 1;"D"
: PRINT AT 3,9; INK 1;"YOU ARE D
EAD": BEEP .1,(l*10)-20: NEXT l:
 NEXT m
4030 INPUT "Another go ? (y/n)(s
p)";b$
4040 IF b$="Y" OR b$="y" THEN  R
UN
4050 STOP
5000 REM *** Collect Sweet ***
5010 LET score=score+1
5020 LET a$(a+1,b)="C": PRINT AT
 a+1,b;"C"
5030 LET a$(a,b)="(sp)"
5040 BEEP .1,10
5050 RETURN
6000 REM *** Sticky mess ***
6010 BEEP .5,-20: FOR c=1 TO 20:
 LET time=time-1: PRINT AT 0,17;
"Time(sp)";time;"(2*sp)": NEXT c
6020 LET a$(a,b)="(sp)"
6030 RETURN
7000 REM *** Variables ***
7010 LET a=11: LET b=15
7020 LET score=0
7030 INPUT "Skill level ? (1-10,
1-hard)";u: IF u>10 OR u<1 THEN
 GO TO 7030
7040 LET u=(u*50)+200
7050 LET time=u+150: LET t=time
7060 RETURN
8000 REM *** Set-up screen ***
8010 DIM a$(22,32)
8020 FOR x=0 TO 31: PRINT  INK 1
;AT 1,x;"A";AT 21,x;"A": NEXT x
8030 FOR x=1 TO 21: PRINT  INK 1
;AT x,0;"A";AT x,31;"A": NEXT x
8040 LET p=INT (RND*19)+2: LET q
=INT (RND*30)+1
8050 LET a$(p,q)="E": PRINT AT p
,q; INK 2;"E"
8060 INK 0
8070 RETURN
9000 REM *** Graphics ***
9010 FOR y=USR "a" TO USR "d"+7
9020 READ z: POKE y,z: NEXT y
9030 DATA 36,36,255,36,36,255,36
,36
9040 DATA 24,60,126,255,255,126,
60,24
9050 DATA 170,85,170,85,170,85,1
70,85
9060 DATA 56,56,16,255,56,56,68,
130
9070 RETURN
```

QUEST ANNOUNCE 6 WAYS OF GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR SINCLAIR QL

- CP/M Operating System
- Business Software
- Disk Storage
- Mass Storage
- Expansion Unit
- Memory Add-ons

Already Available - all essentials for your QL range...

Sinclair QL's
Printers Monitors Cables, paper etc

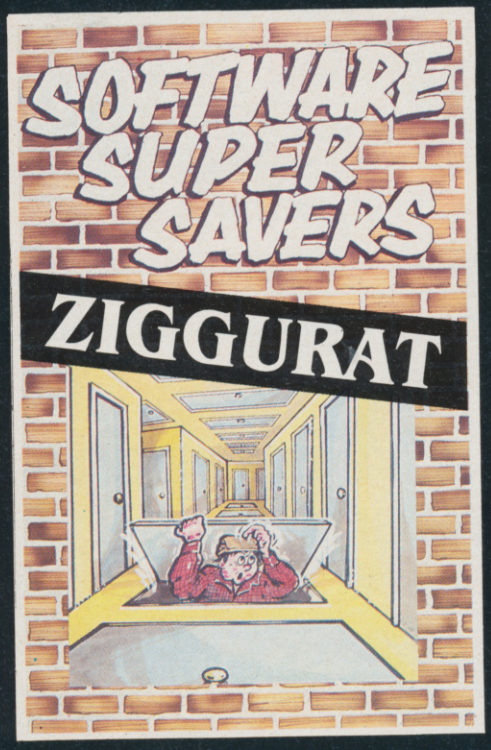
For priority information pack write, telephone or see us at COMPEC stand 938

Quest International Computers Ltd.
Quest House, School Lane, Chandlers Ford, Hants SO5 3YY
Tel: Chandlers Ford (04215) 66321 Telex: 47326

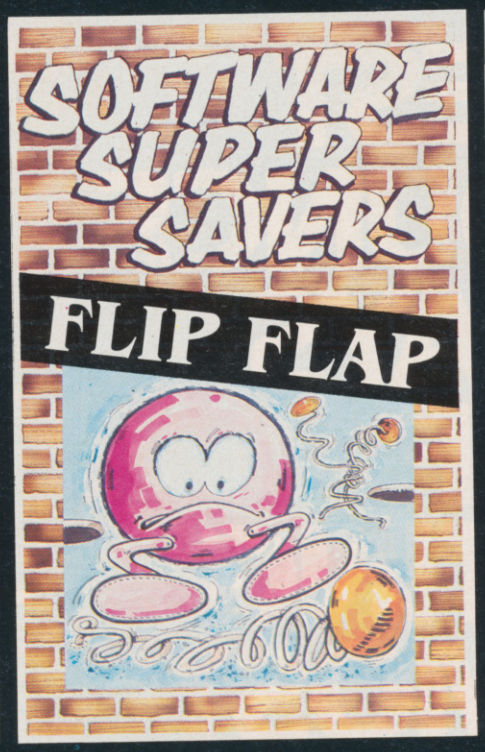
The Computer Professionals

quest

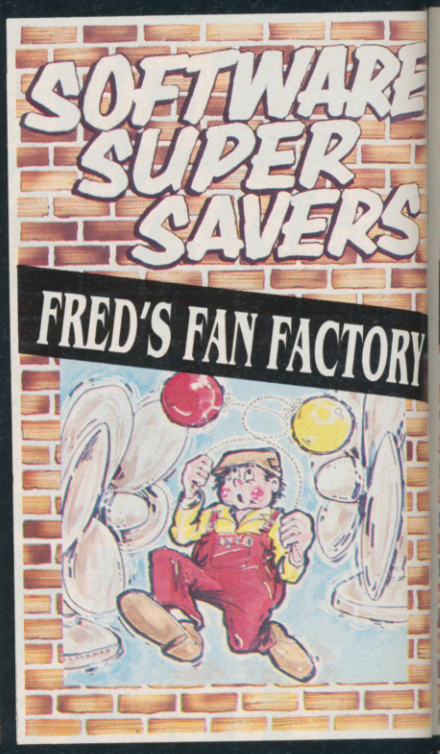
A member of the Quest Automation plc Group of Companies



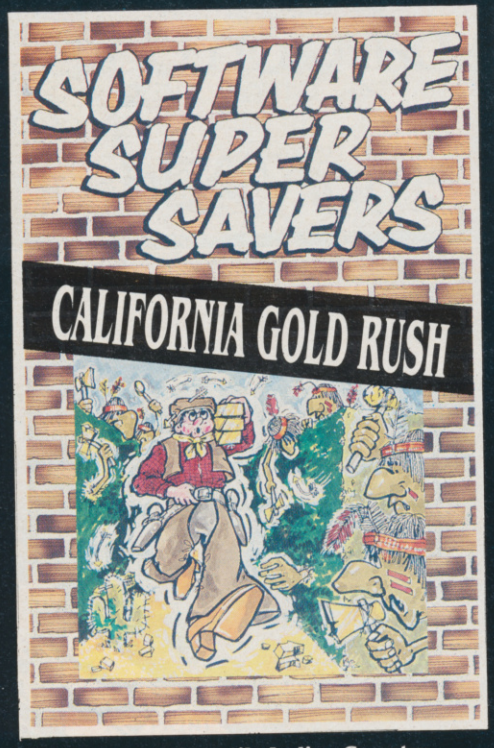
Lured by the promise of untold riches, our intrepid hero enters the temple of Ziggurat, a place of ill legend. All he has to do is grab the money and run, but he can't quite remember which way he came in, and what is that shuffling sound coming from the crypt.
Available on the 48K Spectrum.



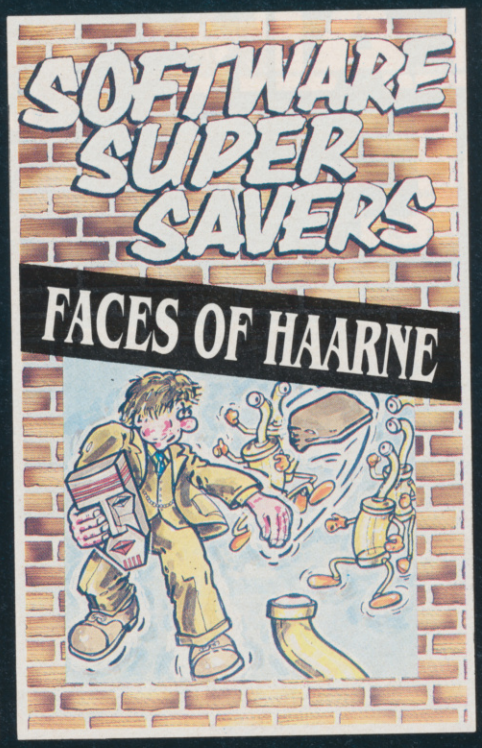
A pin ball game with a novel twist. There are twenty tables to be negotiated, each by reaching a target level. Each table has a different theme with original 'bonus' features. Will you dare to use the gamble feature? You could gain an extra ball – or lose 5,000 points!
Available on 48K Spectrum



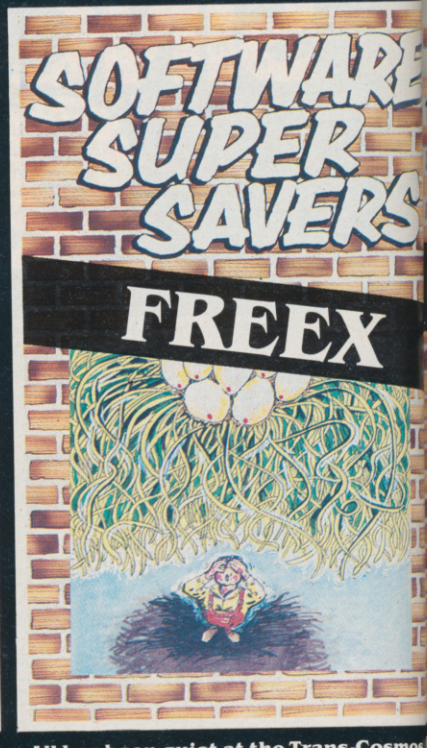
It's Fred's first day at his new job; guiding balloon men through the factory passages using fans to blow them to freedom. Easy? It looks that way until the balloon men come under seige from spinning knives, fireballs, spikes and explosives, Fred is starting to panic, can you help him.
Available on the 48K Spectrum.



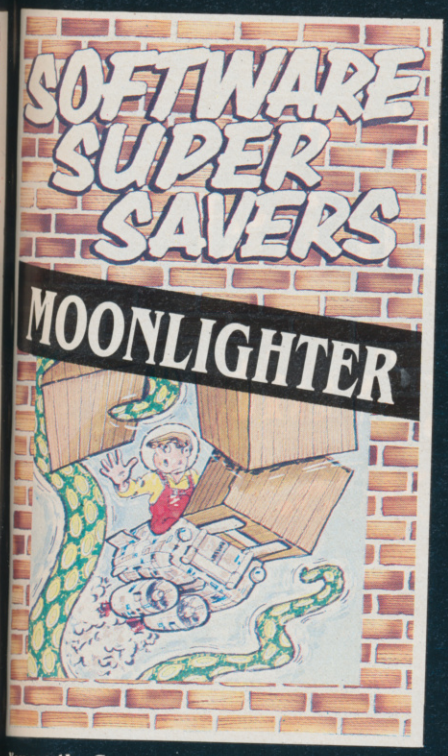
In the heart of hostile Indian Country, prospector Jake has discovered a fabulous fortune in gold, spread out in 24 rich fields. To claim these riches he has to fence off each mine. The Indians, alas, have other ideas, tearing down his fences and attacking him with arrows and tomahawks. Can Jake block the Indians with carefully placed sticks of dynamite and stake his claim to the fortune.
Available on the Commodore 64.



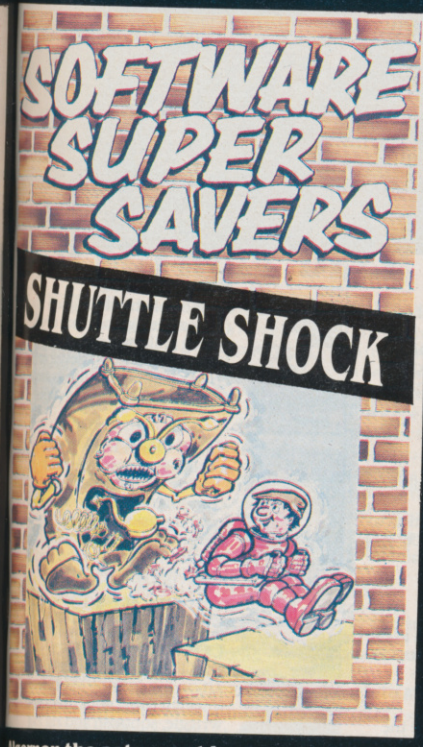
Night falls over the city and at the local museum Herbert the curator is doing his rounds. As he approaches the Green Room containing the mysterious and fabulously valuable "Faces of Haarne", strange noises can be heard from within. Armed with his steel-rimmed "Odd-Job" hat, Herbert enters the room. You won't believe what he encounters!
Available on the Commodore 64.



All has been quiet at the Trans-Cosmos outpost for the past 50 Intergalactic Standard Time Units. Suddenly, out of nowhere, appear hoardes of alien marauders – 100 waves of them. This is it; the moment you've been waiting for, the chance to gain your stripes.
Available on the 48K Spectrum.



You are the Commander of a Space Shuttle ferrying cargo to Arcturus and all planets north. Whilst checking the inventory, which includes Mega-Tennis Balls, Clockwork Oranges and Intoxo-Beverages, you hear some very peculiar sounds coming from the hold. Dare you investigate?
Available on 48K Spectrum.



Algernon the astronaut has crash-landed on the planet Epsilon XI and the power packs that propel his rocket have been dispersed around the planet. Algies efforts to re-assemble his power packs are hindered by some rather eccentric life forms; stinkers, mutant lawn mowers, grandfather clocks?? What kind of planet is this?
Available on the 48K Spectrum.

Software Supersavers is a new name to watch out for. We'll be bringing you quality software at a supersaver price. They're not re-hashes of old games but totally original ideas combining to give you an exciting range of new games.

So whatever your software tastes are, Software Supersavers has the game just right for you.

All games

£2.99

each

Dealer Enquiries –
051-428 6367 and ask for Lesley

Please send me a copy of

.....

I enclose a cheque/PO for.....
(Please add £1.00 for orders outside the UK)

Access Card No .....
Name.....
Address.....
.....

Software Supersavers Ltd., P.O. Box 13, Liverpool L25 7AG

Software Supersavers Ltd., P.O. Box 13, Liverpool L25 7AG

You bought a computer to cultivate your child's mind.

Make sure it's bearing fruit, not growing vegetables.

When it comes to developing a child's learning skills the computer's potential is endless. Unfortunately, the search for software that makes the most of that potential has been endless too.

That is until Spinnaker created their remarkable Learning Tree Series, a unique software range that introduces the one thing missing from most educational programs – fun!

At Spinnaker educators and games programmers write our software. It's a team effort that uses the understanding of how a child learns in a 'fun' way that makes children simply forget they're learning at all.

So successful is the Spinnaker formula that worldwide more parents buy more Spinnaker programs than any other home educational software.

And now, here in Britain, Spinnaker comes to the rescue of parents saddened by the mindless 'shoot to kill' software syllabus.

If you're looking for software that truly cultivates young minds look out for Spinnaker Learning Tree Series.

We're proud to say Spinnaker is one software house actually giving computer games a good name.

ALPHABET ZOO
A zany two-in-one game that teaches children how to understand the relationship between letters and sounds, how to spell and how to have fun doing it.

FRACTION FEVER
An infectiously exciting encounter with the friendly fraction but with a big difference. This contribution to the third 'R' has all the pace and style of arcade game action and graphics.

AEGEAN VOYAGE
What better introduction to the timeless characters and domains of Greek Mythology. This voyage of discovery leaves your child free to enjoy mind challenging tasks because the imagination is well and truly captured.

KINDERCOMP
In one delightful program six fun learning games that every young child will enjoy. Kindercomp helps develop a child's reading readiness and fundamental counting skills.

KIDS ON KEYS
A three game program that cleverly combines simple 'computer literacy' with early learning tasks. Children learn t identify numbers, letters and words through a sound and image reward.

ALF IN THE COLOUR CAVES
You'll have to be clever to guid Alf on his exciting journey through the colour caves and wriggle, squoosh and zig zag him through the shapes to the colour room at the bottom.

Available from selected W.H.Smith, Claude Gill, Blackwells and all good software outlets. Most Spinnaker software is available for Commodore 64, Sinclair Spectrum 48K, Acorn Electron and BBC-B micros.

For further information contact Susan Hough,
W.H.S. Distributors, St. John's House, East Street, Leicester LE1 6NE Telephone: (0533) 551196.

SPINNAKER™
We make learning fun.

NOW 3RD GREAT YEAR!

HIRE

SPECTRUM and ZX81 PROGRAM TAPES

LIFE MEMBERSHIP £5·00

TAPE HIRE FROM 50P INCLUDING VAT

FREE ILLUSTRATED QUARTERLY MAGAZINE WITH TIPS, NEWS, REVIEWS DISCOUNT OFFERS

OVER 3,000 DELIGHTED MEMBERS!

HUGE RANGE!
ADVENTURE GAMES
ARCADE and SIMULATION GAMES
BUSINESS and PRACTICAL PROGRAMS
UTILITIES
M/C COMPILERS
EDUCATIONAL
FROM OVER 60 TOP SUPPLIERS

SPECIAL OFFER! YOUR FIRST TWO TAPES FREE
IF YOU USE THIS COUPON!
or send £1 for magazine & details.
Props: ALEC FRY ARPS, FRSA and ERNA FRY, BA

■ The first true software library to be set up in the world—and still the largest ■ Unrivalled tape stock, as you'd expect from our head start ■ Run by a 16-bit computer (**2 million bytes** of program and data on disk!) with the help of six less able but more friendly mere humans! ■ Often imitated (sometimes almost to the letter—flattery indeed!) but never equalled ■ Friendly, helpful service—at the end of a phone if needed ■ **Free** membership of our Discount Club: pounds off peripherals and top-of-the-chart tapes ■ Any loading problems (rare!) automatically credited ■ Shop now open (next to Post Office) for rental and discount sales of tapes and peripherals ■ Branches throughout the world ■ No complicated schemes, no commitment to quantity—rent what and when you like ■ Printed, illustrated magazine "Computerchat" packs in more than any mere typed newsletter ■ Keenest-ever rates ■ ACCESS holders can join by telephone on 0730 892732 ■ **NO RIVAL can offer all this....**

To: **SOFTWARE LIBRARY**, Farnham Road, West Liss, Hants GU33 6JU.

NAME.....Machine.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

THE ORIGINAL SINCLAIR LIBRARY!

Special offer from this issue: LIFE MEMBERSHIP £5 (normally £9.50). Overseas (Europe only) £10, or join local branch in W. Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, Scandinavia, South Africa, Ireland—send Int. Reply Coupon and we'll forward your enquiry.

Access

SU

HEARING IS BELIEVING

Tele Sound

SPECTRUM BEEP BOOSTER

TELESOUND is ready built and tested so that you can get the full sound of your Spectrum through any unmodified television set, black and white or colour. The unit is easy to fit in minutes without any previous experience as full fitting instructions are provided

TELESOUND has been designed using the very latest ultra miniature components so it's size is an **incredible 2 x 1.3 x 1mm. and fits neatly inside** the Spectrum. Three easy push-on connections are made to the Spectrum. The connections are clearly shown in a diagram that comes with full fitting instructions

TELESOUND FEATURES

- SOUND AND VISION TOGETHER FOR ADDED REALISM
- BEEP VOLUME CONTROLLABLE FROM A WHISPER TO A ROAR
- KEYBOARD CLICK CLEARLY HEARD TO ASSIST PROGRAM ENTRY
- PROGRAMS CAN BE HEARD WHEN BEING LOADED • NO SOLDERING OR CASE CUTTING REQUIRED
- ADDITIONAL AMPLIFIER NOT NECESSARY • SEPARATE POWER SUPPLY NOT REQUIRED
- USES NO MEMORY SO WORKS WITH ALL PROGRAMS • COMPATIBLE WITH ALL OTHER ADD ONS INCLUDING MICRODRIVE

TELESOUND comes complete with easy to follow fitting instructions and costs £9.95 inclusive of post, packing etc. Please state your computer when ordering.

COMPUSOUND

BARCLAYCARD VISA

C T A

Access

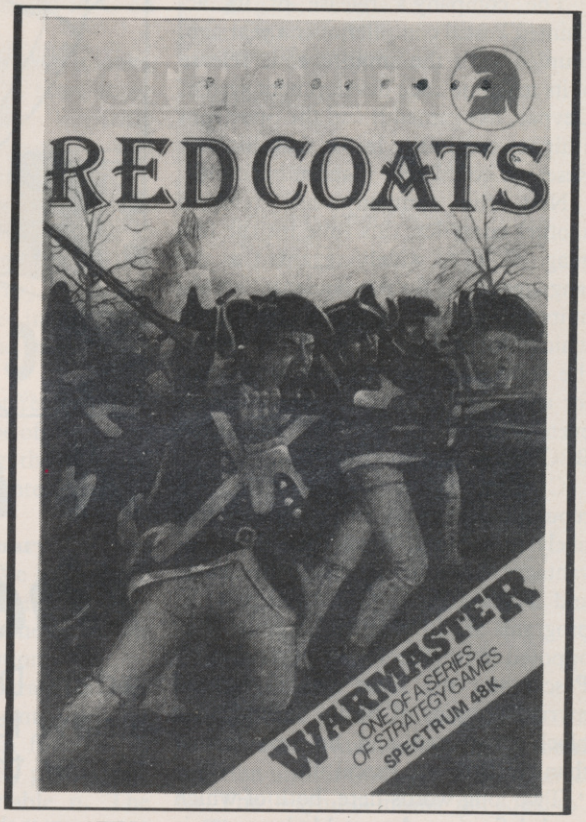
DEPT: SU12 32–33 LANGLEY CLOSE, REDDITCH, WORCS. B98 0ET. TELEPHONE: (0527) 21429 (21439 Answerphone).

LOTHLORIEN

56a Park Lane, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1RE.
Telephone: Poynton (0625) 876642.

NEW

Redcoats is an all graphic War game for either 1 or 2 players, set during the American War of Independence.



Between 1775 and 1783 the British and Americans fought for possession of the American Colonies. This game produces some of the battles that took place during that period, contains 5 different scenarios and the facility to create your own scenarios. Allows full use of cavalry, infantry and artillery forces.

Redcoats .....(Spectrum) **£5.95**
Master of Serebal .....(Spectrum) **£6.95**
Special Operations.....(Spectrum) **£5.95**
Billy Bong.....(Spectrum) **£2.99**
Lifeline .....(Spectrum) **£2.99**

SPECTACULAR FOR DECEMBER

PANZER ATTACK.....(Spectrum) **£5.95**

COUPON REF: SU/A2

Name.....

Address.....

.....

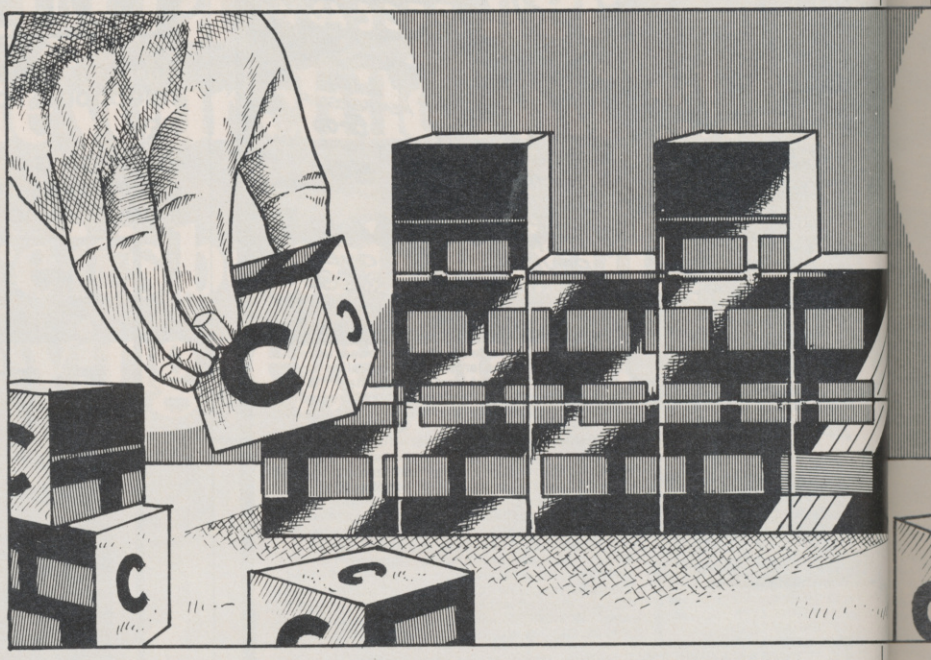
.....

Please send me .....

Computer .....

I enclose cheque/PO/Access No:.....

Post to: **M. C. Lothlorien, 56a Park Lane, Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1RE.**



A language for the future

Adam Denning lays bare the mysteries of C, a new language for the Spectrum which is faster than Forth and simpler than Pascal.

IF THE SPECTRUM was pitched against the BBC Micro for serious applications, it would not be at all surprising if it came out on top amongst programmers. That is almost entirely due to the efforts of one small software company up in Bedfordshire, Hisoft.

The company's release of its acclaimed Pascal compiler over a year ago, coupled with the simultaneous release of its machine code development system Devpac, has gained it and the Spectrum a higher credibility factor than Sinclair Research could ever manage by itself.

Now the company has released another compiler, this time for the language **C.** C is widely regarded as the language of the future, not least because of its unique position as the language in which Unix™ is written. Unix is now the de facto standard operating system for any 16-bit computer, with versions even available for the 68000 extended BBC Micro and soon the QL.

C is integral to all that, gaining a reputation as the systems language most likely to succeed. It has two main advantages over other languages like Basic and Pascal: First, C is standard, so programs are in practice portable — as opposed to the theoretical portability of Pascal and the mess created by the myriad versions of Basic. Second, it is block structured and far less formal than rivals of the Pascal ilk.

Two long words here, both of which need definition. A portable language is one which has exactly the same form on all machines, which means a program written in language X on machine Y will run without alteration on another machine Z that also supports language X. Only C gets truly close to that level of portability.

A block structured language is one in which each task in a program is broken down into small, easily manageable modules. That type of programming is much in vogue, with Pascal being the most shouted-about progenitor. The trend probably started with the BCPL language, developed by Dr Martin Richards in Cambridge, but Pascal and C soon became more widely used.

BCPL is in fact the grandfather of C, as two Americans, Dennis Ritchie and Brian Kernighan, took the offspring of BCPL — called B — and came up with C. The only book worth reading on C was written by those two Americans, and is called *The C Programming Language* published by Prentiss Hall and costing £16.95.

So the Spectrum now provides more opportunity for the budding systems programmer than any other home micro widely available. The provision of C gives distinct advantages to the Spectrum owner, as it is compiled into Z80 machine code and therefore runs faster than most other languages available — it beats the hell out of Forth.

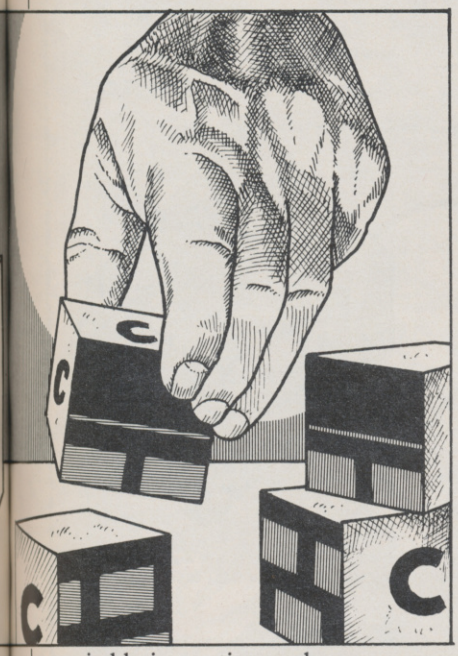
Moreover, anyone contemplating a career in computing is going to need to know about the language, and this is the cheapest option there is. The average programmer will also find it useful as it is easier to use than Pascal and easier to learn. It can do almost everything which Spectrum Basic can do without any of the disadvantages.

Hisoft C is supplied on a cassette, containing everything — the compiler, the editor, the standard input/output header and a library of useful system routines. Once loaded the program asks if you wish to save the compiler and editor to microdrive. That follows Hisoft philosophy of making all its products microdrive compatible, so that a user equipped with those devices need never be hampered by having to return to cassette tapes again.

The editor supplied as an integral part of the compiler is the standard Hisoft line editor used on all its source code based products, but programs can be written without recourse to the editor once you are familiar with both C and the implementation. The editor is invoked by pressing CAPS SHIFT and 1, i.e. EDIT, simultaneously, and from thereon all functions are standard until the c commnd is used to return to the C compiler.

C programs created that way can be saved to and loaded from tape or microdrive, and of course any section of saved source can be included in a compilation with the **#include** directive. That is standard practice in C compilers as it is usual for at least one header file containing all the # define definitions and standard i/o to be included in the source file.

Hisoft C has something else which, as far as we know, is unique — programs can be entered directly into the compiler just by typing them in, and subsequently invoked either by telling the machine that the end of the source file has been reached — by pressing SYMBOL SHIFT i — or by going into **direct** mode with # direct + and typing



a suitable invocation such as:

main();

That direct mode also means that individual functions can be tested as stand alone programs, or quick calculations can be done. For instance, you might want to know the hexadecimal equivalent of 23456. All you have to do (assuming you are in direct mode) is type:

printf("%x/n", 23456);

and your answer will be printed out. You can leave direct mode by typing #direct-.

Before we look at some C programs and discuss how to use the language, we must look at some of the imperfections of the current version of Hisoft C. The most noticeable of those is that invocation of a non-existent function resets the machine, losing the compiler and returning to Basic.

The **float** type is also missing, which means that floating point numbers cannot be operated on. Oddly, the **scanf** function — the C equivalent of INPUT — is not here either, but it is fairly simple to write the parts of the function that you require.

Those are really the shortcomings worth mentioning, and even those will not be there for long. Hisoft will give a free update to purchasers of the current version of the compiler, and all the facilities mentioned as lacking are going to be included at some stage.

A program consists of a number of functions, of which one must be called **main.** That is where execution begins when the program is run. Of course, Hisoft's direct mode obviates the need for that, but it is best to follow the standard language definition so that later program development on other machines will not be hindered by silly mistakes.

The program in Figure 1 converts any number between 0 and 65535 into its hexadecimal and binary equivalents — a bit simple, perhaps, but then how many of us have programmed in C on the Spectrum before?

The program is simpler than it looks, but introduces a lot of C's more interesting properties. It was very hurriedly written, so it is by no means the best example of C programming.

The first thing we do in all three functions is to declare our variables, so that **main** has two integer variables and a character string (an array) 16 characters long, **readn** has three integers and a smaller string array and **binary** has two integers.

The only function that returns a result is **readn,** and the type of that result is indicated by declaring the function itself as having a type — integer in this case.

We also see that **binary** has two parameters passed to it. We have to tell it what type those parameters are, which is the purpose of the two lines after the function declaration.

The body of the program is controlled by **main.** It first prints a prompt and then uses our **readn** function to read in a decimal number, passing the integer value to the variable **n.** The **binary** function is then called to convert this into a 16 character binary string in the array **b,** and then the answers are printed out. The **printf** function can handle the printing of numbers in hex, but not binary, so we then use a for loop to print out the 16 digits of b in reverse order.

Notice the structure of the 'for loop' — the start value first, then the end condition and finally the increment. The ++ here is just the C way of incrementing.

As carriage returns and various other 'non-printing' characters are rather hard to represent on screen, C uses the backlash (\) as an escape character, so that various symbols after the slash are converted to various characters. Thus, \n is a new line character.

The **readn** function is a very simple method of reading in a number from the keyboard, and has two distinct disadvantages. It can only handle digits, so no sign must be included, and if you type in more digits than there are places in the s array, you will crash the computer. It is, however, quite fast. It simply reads in each digit from the keyboard at a time, using the **getchar** function until it finds a new line character. The != symbol means 'not equal to'.

```
main() /* convert unsigned decimal
to hex and binary */
{
  int n;
  char b[16];
  printf("Give me a number: ");
  n=readn();
  binary(n,b);
  printf("/nThis is %x in hex and/n",n);
  for (i=0;i=<16; ++i)
      putchar(b[15-i]);
  printf("in binary/n");
}
int readn()
{
  char s[5];
  int i,c,total;
  i=0;
  while ((c=getchar()) !='/n')
    s[i++]=c;
  total=0;
  for (c=0; c<i; ++c)
    total=total*10+s[c]-'0';
  return total;
}
binary(num,digits)
int num;
char digits[];
{
  int i,c;
  for (i=15; i>-1; --i)
    {
      c=num & 1<<i;
      if (c==0)
        digits[i]='0';
      else
        digits[i]='1';
    }
}
```

Figure 1

The resulting string is then converted to decimal by taking each digit and progressively adding into ten times the total — a very standard method. That is then returned as the result.

A 'for loop' is also used by binary, this time decrementing from 15 to 0 to access each element of the array in reverse order. We use bitwise ANDing (the **&** operator) on powers of two to generate each binary digit. Each power of two is formed by shifting one left the requisite number of places (the << operator — pure BCPL).

That is by no means the extent of C's usefulness, and its reputation for systems programming is well founded but difficult to demonstrate briefly. It is the most welcome addition to the Spectrum catalogue since Sinclair introduced the Microdrives, and at the price cannot be missed. Hisoft is at: 180 High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire. Tel. 0582 696421.

HISOFT C
Memory: **48K**
Price: **£25.00**
Gilbert Factor: **9**

QL Corner

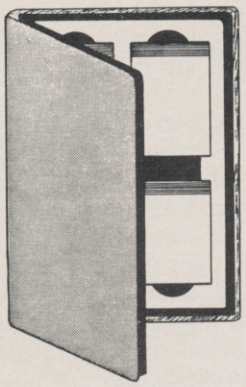
QLART IS THE KEY TO THE 131072 PIXELS!

• INSTANT WINDOWS • UDG'S • FULL TURTLE GRAPHICS • PAINT-BOX COLOUR • FUNCTION KEY CONTROL • HEADINGS • CURSOR CONTROLLED DRAWING BOARD • FULL FILE MANAGEMENT • FULL HIGH RES. PRINTER DUMPS • SCORES OF SHAPE ROUTINES • SOUND GENERATOR • IDEAL FOR GAMES AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS • EASILY INCORPORATED INTO YOUR OWN PROGRAMS • FULL MANUAL + STORAGE CASE FOR 4 CARTRIDGES

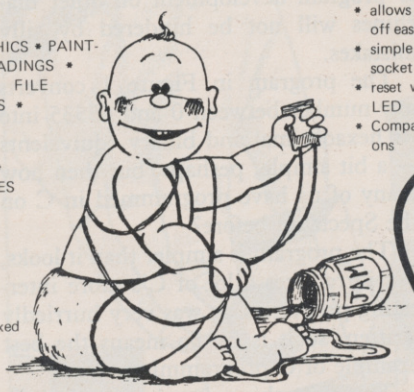
£12·95

EIDERBOX

for keeping your microdrive cartridges safe and indexed



- Stores 4 Cartridges
- QL or Spectrum Versions
- Free standing
- Full Index book
- Cover gives handy microdrive information
- Ideal for the library shelf

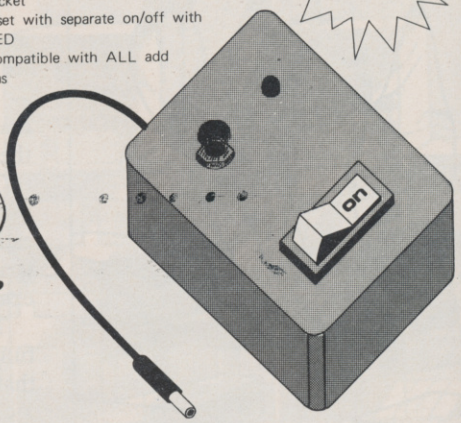


Name our baby and win a Christmas bundle yourself!
Full details with every order.

THE SWITCH

£4·90

- allows the Spectrum to be reset or switched off easily
- simple — just plugs into the power socket
- reset with separate on/off with LED
- Compatible with ALL add ons



SILLY SOFTWARE SALE!
Psytron (7.95) £6.25 Lords of Midnight (9.95) £8.50 Bear Bover (6.95) £6 Atik Atak (5.50) £4.70 Chuckie Egg (6.90) £5.90 Jet Set Willy (5.95) £5.10 Sabre Wolf (9.95) £8.50 FULL RANGE OVER 300 TITLES

C15 cassettes 10 for £4·90

£1·49 each
4 for £5

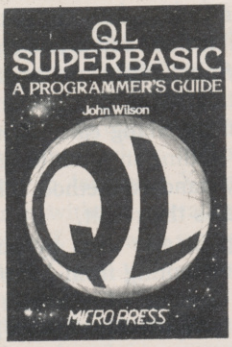
EVERY ORDER OVER £5 GETS A FREE FULL COLOUR PROGRAMMING POSTER WORTH £1.25!

ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT AND DELIVERY:

Eidersoft

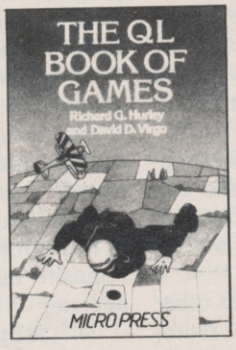
MAKE CHEQUES AND POSTAL ORDERS PAYABLE TO EIDERSOFT, FREEPOST PO BOX 54 ILFORD IG1 1BR **PHONE 01-478 1291 10am–8pm**

NEW FOR ALL QL & SPECTRUM OWNERS



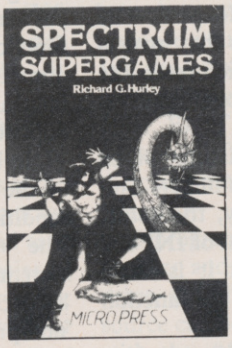
QL SuperBASIC: A Programmer's Guide **£6.95**
by John Wilson

The exciting new features in SuperBASIC are clearly explained to take you to a high degree of expertise



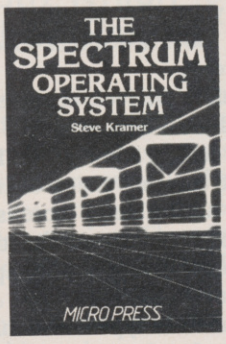
The QL Book of Games **£6.95**
by Richard G Hurley & David D Virgo

This book offers you the opportunity to start your own library with a collection of excellent graphic games.



Spectrum Supergames **£5.95**
by Richard G Hurley

Thirteen graphic games containing various techniques and methods of programming to save both time and memory



The Spectrum Operating System **£5.95**
by Steve Kramer

A valuable asset for all Spectrum owners who would like to be able to gain access to the versatility of Machine Code.

Available from Booksellers or direct from the Publishers.

Orders to: **Micro Press, 27 London Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1BX Tel: (0892) 39606**

Please send me:

- ☐ QL SUPERBASIC : A PROGRAMMER'S GUIDE **£6.95**
- ☐ THE QL BOOK OF GAMES **£6.95**
- ☐ THE SPECTRUM OPERATING SYSTEM **£5.95**
- ☐ SPECTRUM SUPERGAMES **£5.95**

I enclose a cheque/PO for: £ _____

(plus £1 p & p for a single copy and 50p each additional copy)

MP MICRO PRESS

Please debit my Access/Barclaycard/American Express/ Diners Card No: _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Signature _____ Date _____

MAY WICO BE WITH YOU

When you're up against all the evil in the universe, you need the finest joystick. Weak, sticky, slow controls can only lead you to your doom.

You need a Wico.® The controls in more than 500 modern arcade games are actually made by Wico.® They set the industry standard for durability and performance. And the same arcade quality goes into the Wico® you take home.

Wico® joysticks work directly with the Commodore 64,™ Vic 20,™ all Atari® Home Computers and Atari® Video Games.

Add an interface, and you can connect into a Sinclair Spectrum or Apple II® and IIe.® If you have a new MSX computer there's the just released MSX Grip Handle for you.

What do you get? A man-sized handle on a virtually unbreakable shaft. Tough, ultra-sensitive Wico® switchgear. A heavy-weight base. A year's guarantee. And more sheer dodging, chasing and blasting power than ever before.

The Wico® range includes the famous Red Ball,™ straight out of the arcades. The Three Way Deluxe with interchangeable handles. The light but rugged Boss. And check out the state-of-the-art Trackball: many owners use it for serious programming, where it gives them effortless cursor control.

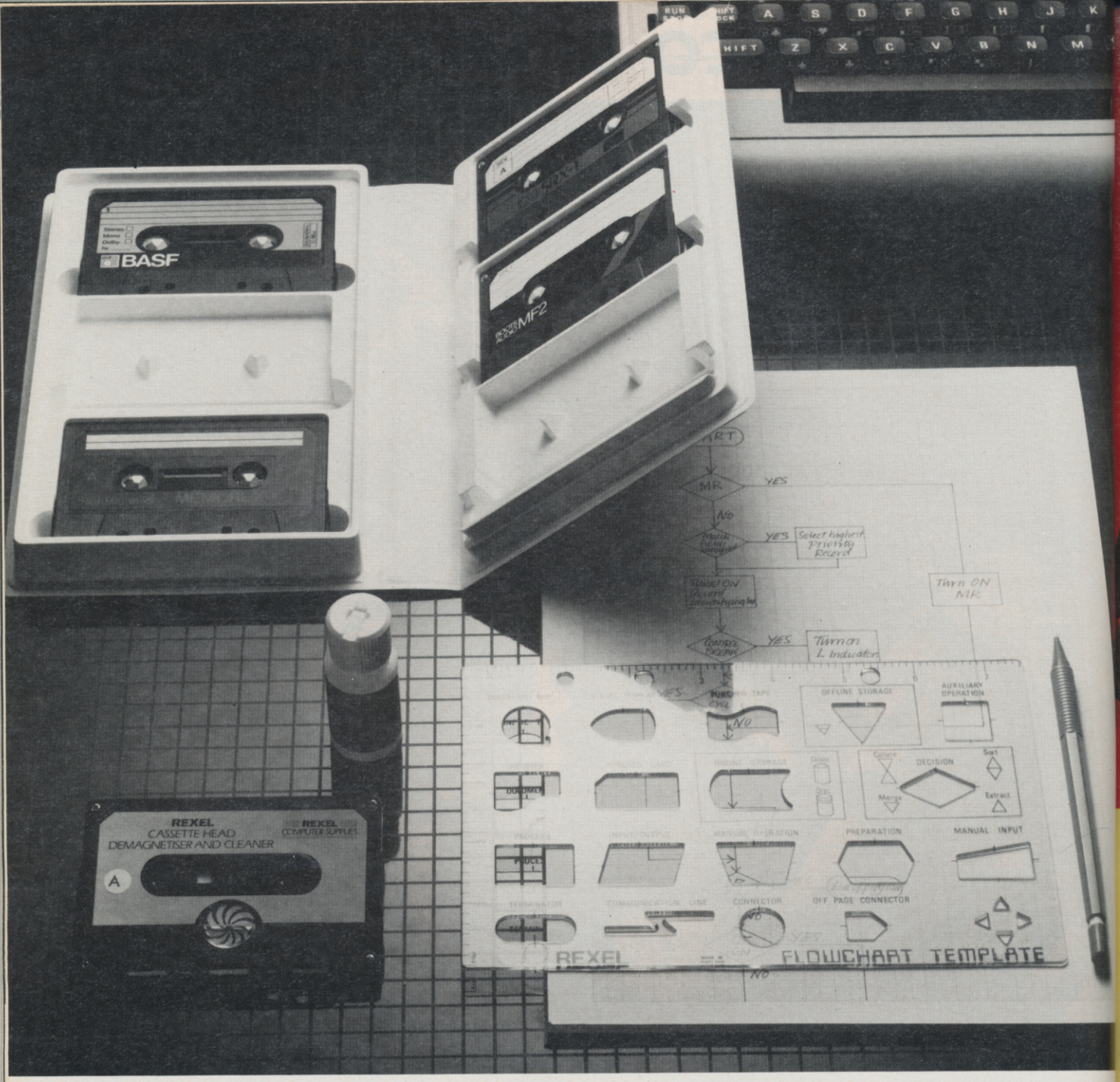
Ask your dealer to let you handle a Wico.® Quality (you'll find) costs money.

But if you want to have less trouble fighting your controls, and more power for fighting the forces of darkness . . . only Wico® is worth of your hand.

WICO®

THE FINEST HAND CONTROLS IN THE KNOWN UNIVERSE

CGL HOUSE, GOLDINGS HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 2RR. 01-508 5600. LOOK FOR THE WICO NAME IN ALL GOOD SHOPS AND CATALOGUES.



£11.49 OR LESS. HOW'S THAT FOR STARTERS?

Everything you need to organise yourself and to operate and maintain your computer – cassette storage, programming, cleaning – all together in one complete kit.

The Rexel Home Computer Starter Kit is put together by experts to help you get the very best out of your micro, especially if you are starting on the exciting business of creating your own programs.

Compatible with every cassette driven micro, it is available now at W.H.Smith, John Menzies and other leading suppliers. And at £11.49 or less, it's an absolute gift.

Also look out for the range of Rexel Computer Care and Maintenance products. Prices start from £3.50.

You couldn't have a better start than that.

For more information on the Rexel Computer Care products, write to:

Rexel Ltd, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP19 3DT

Cassette binder supplied without cassettes

REXEL

COMPUTER SUPPLIES

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT REXEL

The best accessory for your micro

ONLY
£34.49
(P+P £2.50)

The Rotronics Portable Case

Here is the ideal portable work station for home, school or work. Specially made for most home microcomputers, it contains your ZX81 or Spectrum within a smart executive style case with removable lid for convenience in use.

The individually tailored foam insert securely protects your micro, printer, cassette recorder, tapes and manuals during transit. A scalpel is provided to modify the insert for expansion units and an alternative insert can be supplied if you change your hardware in the future. The case is also available with uncut foam inserts.

All components remain fully operational within the case via inter-connections routed between the double layers of foam, so there are no unsightly leads.

This is the first case designed for easy use with each component positioned for convenient operation. The overall dimensions are 138mm x 700mm x 363mm.

Spectrum Keyboard

Outstanding features! Contains Spectrum within the keyboard casing. Plugs-in directly – no danger of invalidating guarantee. Volume control and load/save switch. £58.45 (p+p £1.50)

Quickshot II Joystick

3 position switch selects either programmable or Kempston modes. Comfortable grip with two fire buttons. Auto-fire button and stabilizing feet. £9.95 (p+p 50p)

Joystick Interface

Allows standard 9 pin joystick to be used with any Spectrum software. Kempston compatible. Easily programmed in seconds – no links or cassette software required. £24.45 (p+p 50p)

Order Form

Trade Enquiries Welcome

Please send (enter as appropriate)

- ☐ Rotronics Portable Case(s) at £36.99 each (inc. p+p) for ZX81/ Spectrum/Uncut Foam*
- ☐ Spectrum Keyboard(s) at £59.95 each (inc. p+p)
- ☐ Quickshot II Joystick(s) at £10.45 each (inc. p+p)
- ☐ Joystick Interface(s) at £24.95 each (inc. p+p)
- ☐ Echo Amplifier(s) at £19.95 each (inc. p+p)

(* delete as necessary)
All prices inclusive of VAT

☐ I enclose a cheque/PO* for £_____ made payable to SMT ☐ Debit my Access/ Barclaycard* account no. _____ Signature _____

VISA Access

Name _____

Address _____

_____

SMT

Please allow 28 days for delivery. Send to (no stamp required)
FREEPOST Greens Norton Towcester Northants NN12 8BR

Sinclair wizardry

Meet magician David Hambly, and learn a couple of new tricks for your Spectrum

THE FIRST TIME you saw a home computer put through its paces you may have felt there was something magical about the machine. David Hambly goes a step further than that. He performs a magic act using the Spectrum.

David's career in magic began over twenty years ago, when he was ten years old, and took up conjuring as a hobby. Since then he has become a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, and has performed throughout Europe as a cabaret artist and close-up magician. Recently he has appeared on television in *Video and Chips* and *Me and My Micro.*

One of the more unusual bookings he had was to perform an illusion act from a boxing ring, to warm up the audience before a full-contact karate competition.

Close-up magic is that branch dealing with the manipulation of small objects such as cards or coins, requiring great skill and sleight of hand to accomplish. He says manipulation is going out of fashion among young magicians, who prefer to concentrate on the spectacular self-working tricks involving mechanical apparatus.

David first became familiar with computers while working for an electronics company which used what David describes as a temperamental Digital PDP/8. Although he wanted to buy a Commodore Pet, it was not until Sinclair released the ZX-81 that David was able to afford his own machine. His initial use for the machine was to handle accounts and other aspects of his magic career.

Give a magician any sort of object, and sooner or later he will start to develop a magic trick using it. The ZX-81 was no exception. Before long David was incorporating effects using the computer into his acts. As his skill at programming grew, so did the complexity

of the magic he was able to perform, although David is the first to admit that he is no machine-code wizard. "I'm sure there are better ways of writing the program," he says. "I'm just satisfied if it works."

His most complicated program, which he has surrounded with safeguards against copying, actually devises its own tricks, some of which have been published in specialist magic magazines. David felt the next step was to collect all the notes he had made and write a book, the first ever on the subject, entitled *Computer Magic.*

David says he regrets now some of the secrets he revealed in the book. "There are two techniques in particular I wish I hadn't put in," he says. "They're far too good to use in a book."

If you want to learn those secrets you will have to buy David's book, but in the meantime, here are two of David's programs especially for Sinclair User readers.

Please read the instructions on the first page of Program Printout before typing in the listings.

Find the Rabbit, for the 16K Spectrum, is based on the very well known effect called Three Card Monte, also known as Find the Lady.

Load the program and three cards will be displayed on the screen, face up, two showing a top hat, while the third shows a rabbit, After a key is pressed, the cards are seen face down. Your audience must now guess where the rabbit is.

As an additional trick stick a piece of blank paper onto an old playing card. Draw a rabbit on it and place it in your pocket. At any time during your performance, press key 4. That, as before, will display three cards, face down. Have one of the cards chosen by a friend, and stand by for the Big Surprise.

Displayed will be three cards face up, but now showing three top hats and not two. Explain that the rabbit has nearly vanished and then produce the card from your pocket, to reveal the rabbit.

In Telepathic Computer the computer is able to identify a card which has been selected from a shuffled deck.

First of all, remove all of the following cards from the deck: A-2-3-4-5-6-7 of Spades; 8-9-10-J-Q-K of Hearts; A-2-3-4-5-6 of Clubs; and 7-8-9-10-J-Q-K of Diamonds. Shuffle those 26 cards together, so that they are well mixed.

With the remainder of the pack, consisting of 26 cards and two Jokers, remove the Jokers and place them on

continued on page 148

Find the rabbit

```
   1 BORDER 3: PAPER 7: INK 0: C
LS
   5 PRINT  INK 1;AT 10,8;"THREE
 CARD MONTE."; INK 3;AT 12,8;"(F
IND THE RABBIT)"; INK 0;AT 21,0;
 Sheer Magic Software. 1984."
  10 PAUSE 400
  15 CLS
  16 PRINT TAB 14; PAPER 7; BRIG
HT 1; INK 2; FLASH 1;"NOTE"
  20 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT  PAPE
R 1; INK 7;"The(2*sp)following(2
*sp)program(2*sp)has(4*sp)been d
esigned(2*sp)for entertainmentpu
rposes only."
  25 GO SUB 500: GO SUB 1000
  30 PAUSE 300: CLS
  35 GO SUB 2000
  40 LET a=INT ((RND*3)+1)
  50 BORDER 6
  60 LET j=4
  70 FOR i=6 TO 14
  80 PRINT  PAPER 7; INK 2;AT i,
j;"(5*A,5*sp,5*A,5*sp,5*A)"
  90 NEXT i
 100 PRINT  INK 1; FLASH 1;AT 15
,6;"1";AT 15,16;"2";AT 15,26;"3"
 115 PRINT  INK 3;AT 17,0;"FIND
THE RABBIT.";, INK 1;"CHOOSE A C
ARD. 1 2 OR 3"
 120 PAUSE 0
 125 LET A$=INKEY$
 140 IF A$="1" AND 1=A THEN  GO
TO 200
 143 IF A$="2" AND 2=A THEN  GO
TO 200
 145 IF A$="3" AND 3=A THEN  GO
TO 200
 148 IF A$="4" THEN  GO TO 3000
 150 GO SUB 3000
 155 POKE 23609,255
 160 FOR i=1 TO 20
 165 BEEP .01,-10+i
 170 NEXT i
 180 GO TO 30
 200 PRINT  INK 4; FLASH 1;"YES-
YOU WIN."; FLASH 0; INK 0;"HAVE
ANOTHER GO."
 250 LET D=4: LET E=14: LET F=24
 255 FOR I=6 TO 14
 260 IF A$="1" THEN  GO TO 300
 270 IF A$="2" THEN  GO TO 350
 280 IF A$="3" THEN  GO TO 400
 300 PRINT  PAPER 5;AT I,D;"
 "
 302 PRINT  INK 0;AT 8,5;"KLM";A
T 9,5;"NOP";AT 10,5;"QRS";AT 11,
5;"(sp)T(sp)";AT 13,4; INK 2; IN
VERSE 1;"BUNNY": INVERSE 0
 305 NEXT I
 310 FOR i=1 TO 20
 320 BEEP .015,RND*40
 330 NEXT i
 340 PAUSE 100: GO TO 30
 350 PRINT  PAPER 5;AT I,E;"(5*s
p)"
 353 PRINT  INK 0;AT 8,15;"KLM";
AT 9,15;"NOP";AT 10,15;"QRS";AT
11,15;"(sp)T(sp)";AT 13,14; INK
2; INVERSE 1;"BUNNY": INVERSE 0
 355 NEXT I
 360 FOR i=1 TO 20
 370 BEEP .015,RND*40
 380 NEXT i
 390 PAUSE 100: GO TO 30
 400 PRINT  PAPER 5;AT I,F;"(5*s
p)"
 403 PRINT  INK 0;AT 8,25;"KLM";
AT 9,25;"NOP";AT 10,25;"QRS";AT
11,25;" T ";AT 13,24; INK 2; INV
ERSE 1;"BUNNY": INVERSE 0
 405 NEXT I
 410 FOR i=1 TO 20
 420 BEEP .015,RND*40
 430 NEXT i
 440 PAUSE 100: GO TO 30
 500 FOR a=USR "a" TO USR "a"+7
 510 READ user: POKE a,user
 520 NEXT a: RETURN
 550 DATA 204,204,51,51,204,204,
51,51
1000 RESTORE 1100: FOR a=USR "B"
 TO USR "T"+7
1010 READ user: POKE a,user
1020 NEXT a: RETURN
1100 DATA 0,15,48,71,207,96,31,7
1110 DATA 0,255,0,255,255,0,255,
255
1120 DATA 0,240,48,198,195,2,255
,252
1130 DATA 4,5,5,5,5,5,5,5
1140 DATA 0,249,249,249,249,249,
249,249
1150 DATA 16,240,240,240,240,240
,240,240
1160 DATA 5,5,5,5,5,3,1,0
1170 DATA 249,249,249,249,249,23
3,255,0
1180 DATA 240,240,240,240,240,22
4,192,0
1200 DATA 4,12,18,18,18,17,17,17
1210 DATA 0,1,1,1,2,2,2,4
1220 DATA 172,32,32,96,160,160,1
60,32
1230 DATA 17,9,8,4,4,5,5,11
1240 DATA 5,249,0,0,198,41,41,23
9
1250 DATA 64,64,128,128,128,0,64
,64
1260 DATA 16,16,34,35,34,8,4,3
1270 DATA 48,48,73,255,121,48,0,
128
1280 DATA 64,64,64,32,32,32,64,1
28
1290 DATA 65,62,0,0,0,0,0,0
2000 PAUSE 100: CLS
2005 LET j=4: FOR i=6 TO 14
2010 PRINT  INK 5;AT i,j;"(5*ig8
,5*sp,5*ig8,5*sp,5*ig8)"
2020 NEXT i
2100 PRINT  INK 0;AT 8,5;"BCD";A
T 9,5;"EFG";AT 10,5;"HIJ";AT 11,
5; INK 2; INVERSE 1;"TOP";AT 13,
5;"HAT": INVERSE 0
2110 PRINT  INK 0;AT 8,15;"BCD";
AT 9,15;"EFG";AT 10,15;"HIJ";AT
11,15; INK 2; INVERSE 1;"TOP";AT
 13,15;"HAT": INVERSE 0
2120 PRINT  INK 0;AT 8,25;"KLM";
AT 9,25;"NOP";AT 10,25;"QRS";AT
11,25;"(sp)T(sp)";AT 13,24; INK
2; INVERSE 1;"BUNNY": INVERSE 0
2150 PAUSE 100
2200 RETURN
3000 IF a$="1" OR A$="4" THEN  P
RINT AT 6,4; INK 5;"(5*ig8)";AT
7,4;"(5*ig8)";AT 8,4;"(ig8)"; IN
K 0;"BCD"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 9,4;
"(ig8)"; INK 0;"EFG"; INK 5;"(ig
8)";AT 10,4;"(ig8)"; INK 0;"HIJ"
; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 11,4;"(5*ig8)
";AT 12,4;"(5*ig8)";AT 13,4;"(5*
ig8)";AT 14,4;"(5*ig8)"
3010 IF a$="2" OR A$="4" THEN  P
RINT AT 6,14; INK 5;"(5*ig8)";AT
 7,14;"(5*ig8)";AT 8,14;"(ig8)";
 INK 0;"BCD"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 9
,14;"(ig8)"; INK 0;"EFG"; INK 5;
"(ig8)";AT 10,14;"(ig8)"; INK 0;
"HIJ"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 11,14;"(
5*ig8)";AT 12,14;"(5*ig8)";AT 13
,14;"(5*ig8)";AT 14,14;"(5*ig8)"
3020 IF a$="3" OR A$="4" THEN  P
RINT AT 6,24; INK 5;"(5*ig8)";AT
 7,24;"(5*ig8)";AT 8,24;"(ig8)";
 INK 0;"BCD"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 9
,24;"(ig8)"; INK 0;"EFG"; INK 5;
"(ig8)";AT 10,24;"(ig8)"; INK 0;
"HIJ"; INK 5;"(ig8)";AT 11,24;"(
5*ig8)";AT 12,24;"(5*ig8)";AT 13
,24;"(5*ig8)";AT 14,24;"(5*ig8)"
3050 PRINT  INK 2; FLASH 1;AT 20
,0;" WRONG TRY AGAIN "
3060 IF A$="4" THEN  PRINT AT 20
,0;"> HE HAS VANISHED <"
3070 RETURN
```